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U.S. TANK SALE DRAWS ALGERIAN PROTEST

London 8 DAYS in English 14 Feb 81 pp 26-27

[Article by Russell Warren Howe]

[Text] With what a senior State Department official described as 'just about the worst possible timing,' US Secretary of State Alexander Haig has approved a 6-month-old Moroccan request for 108 M60 heavy US tanks. Congress was informed of the decision only days after the release of the US hostages in Iran, following negotiations in which Algeria played the leading intermediary role. Algeria's Washington ambassador, Redha Malek, one of the Tehran negotiators, has lodged a strong protest.

The US ambassador to Algiers, Ulric Haynes, a Carter political nominee who was due to be replaced in any case, flew back to Washington precipitately and raised a storm with Haig, informed sources say. The sources say Haynes, a prominent black businessman, 'felt Algeria had been badly done by. When he left the department, we asked him where he could be reached and he was so hopping mad he wouldn't leave a telephone number.'

The sources say Moroccan ambassador Ali Bengelloun, a prominent social figure in Washington, persuaded former US ambassador to Rabat Robert Neumann to intercede with Haig to approve the sale. Neumann headed the Reagan transition team in the State Department which prepared the ground for Haig and drew up policy recommendations for the new administration.

The staff directors of the Senate foreign relations committee and the House foreign affairs committee told 8 Days that Congress had so far only received an informal 20-day notice, meaning that a formal 30-day notice would come later this month. Each house then has a month either to introduce a motion of disapproval or to ignore the administration decision. A disapproval motion must be passed by both houses to stop the sale. This procedure applies to all foreign arms sales of more than \$25m and to some follow-up sales of more than \$7m. The 108 tanks, with ancillary equipment, spares and ammunition, would probably cost in the region of \$100m, with the price varying according to the systems installed.

A well-informed House of Representatives source said there was a 'good likelihood' of a spirited Congressional debate, with even conservative, pro-Moroccan, normally anti-Algerian members arguing for putting the Moroccan request on ice, at least until the end of the year. Even if this happens, Algerian trust in the Reagan administration will obviously be undermined.

White House sources continued that delivery of the tanks would take three years, by which time the Western Sahara conflict would presumably be over. These sources also said the big tanks were unsuitable for flat desert warfare and were needed for defence against Algeria, which outnumbered Morocco in tanks by 'four or five to one.' This figure appeared, uncorrected, in the US press. Actually, the tank ratio between the two countries is 350-170, or about 2-1.

A Pentagon armoured-warfare specialist disagreed with the notion that M60s were unsuitable for the Western Sahara. 'They would be devastating,' she said. 'They've got night-vision scopes and laser cannon. Polisario would need ground-attack planes, which they don't have, or wire-guided missiles to handle the threat.' Algeria, which helps arm Polisario, has Soviet anti-tank missiles whose NATO name is Sagger.

Former president Carter approved the sale of OV10 Bronco reconnaissance aircraft to Morocco last March, but King Hassan refused to give more than his verbal 'word of honour' that they would not be used in the Sahara war. Morocco requested the tanks in July. The White House says ambassador Bengelloun has given 'private assurances' that the M60s will not be used in the Sahara, but no written assurance. All US military sales obligate the purchaser to use American weapons only for defence or in furtherance of a regional pact, but Morocco has insisted in the past that it is 'defending' itself from Algeria in the Sahara.

State Department sources say former secretary of state Muskie and former deputy secretary Warren Christopher opposed the tank sale. Haig and Neumann appear to have acted quickly, hoping to benefit from the hiatus on Capitol Hill, where none of the new subcommittee chairmen had been selected.

CSO: 4420

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO OFFICIAL CRITICIZES U.S. STAND ON EXTRADITION ISSUE

JN230815 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Feb 81 pp 19, 20

[Text] Amman--'Abd al-Jawad Salih, PLO Executive Committee member and chairman of the Palestinian human rights committee, has said that the incarceration of 20-year-old Palestinian struggler Ziyad Abu al-'Ayn for 18 months in U.S. prisons is in principle a blatant violation of human rights and a confirmation of the U.S.-Zionist nonrecognition of the Palestinian people's human and political rights.

In a statement to AL-DUSTUR, Salih said that the U.S. court of appeal's ruling to extradite Abu al-'Ayn to the Israeli entity demonstrates the hostile U.S. stand against the Palestinian people's rights and the Arab nation because back in 1975 the United States turned down a British Government request to extradite an Irish struggler.

He said that the PLO views this act as an abduction of an innocent Palestinian citizen, who had left the occupied West Bank by an official permit to visit his sister in the United States. Therefore, the extradition of Abu al-'Ayn is a blatant violation of all human rights' principles and international norms that govern relations among civilized nations. It is also a provocative act against the Arab nation and an overt challenge against its governments.

Hence, Salih added: We appeal to all the Arab governments to firmly confront this act, particularly since the extradition was based on a political decision and was decided upon under pressure from the State Department away from the principle of justice. These governments must not permit the peddling of this step, which will constitute a serious initiative that will enable Israel to request the extradition of any Palestinian citizen working and struggling against the Zionist entity, be it a struggle in the information and political fields or in resisting occupation.

In conclusion, Salih said: We must intensify our efforts to expose this U.S. stand, which contravenes human rights. We will therefore prepare a statement on the condition and implications that led to Abu al-'Ayn's detention. The statement will be distributed to the Arab countries' foreign ministers, the Arab League, the United Nations, the human rights committees, the international jurists committee and the Arab jurists federation.

CSO: 4802

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

EUROPE URGED TO CONDEMN ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS, RECOGNIZE PLO

LD241531 Rome AVANTI! in Italian 10 Feb 81 pp 8-9

[Interview with PLO representative in Italy Nirm Hammad by Alberto Ninotti: "Success of Palestinian Revolution Partly Connected With Democratic Stability in Europe"; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] What answers were provided by the Al-Ta'if summit? We here in the West believe that the existence of some of the most serious international crisis--Afghanistan, the Iranian-Iraqi war--together with the continued existence of other regional crises, such as the one in Chad, not to mention the conflict for the Western Sahara, seem to be retarding still further the solution of the Middle East crisis, which centers on the Palestinian issue. What is the PLO's opinion on this?

[Answer] We can draw an answer from the actual facts. The only issue which prompted a united response from the Islamic world in Al-Ta'if was once again the Palestinian issue. Indeed, it proved to be central and fundamental to all the Islamic countries, and it was no accident that the summit was rechristened "the Islamic conference for Palestine and Jerusalem."

We can also explain the reason for all this. The Palestinian tragedy began with the very start of the decolonization of the Third World. This is why since 1948 the Islamic world has regarded the Palestinian issue as its own.

Moreover, Palestine and Jerusalem are holy lands for the Muslim.

A third factor is that the Israeli military machine poses a threat to the Islamic world as a whole.

Despite all this, since the Palestinian issue must continue to be the central point on the Islamic panorama, we Palestinians are also concerned with resolving the other problems that weigh on the Islamic world. In particular we are doing everything in our power to bring an end to the dispute between Iran and Iraq.

[Question] The Al-Ta'if summit seems to have assumed a more realistic stance than in the past on the demand for an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied

territories. There has been talk of a withdrawal from the areas occupied in 1967, in accordance with the UN Security Council's Resolution 242. The indications regarding the Jerusalem issue seemed less clear, however.

[Answer] The only innovation in the resolutions adopted in Al-Ta'if lies in the fact that they broached in greater detail the Islamic world's general objectives on the basis of a global solution of the Middle East's problems, hinging on the total withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied territories, including Jerusalem. In this latter connection I can specify as follows: Israel has tried to create a new de facto situation in the occupied territories by establishing settlements in the majority of the territories occupied in 1967, but particularly by creating urban developments in the city of Jerusalem. All these steps have been taken illegally and in contravention of international laws and in no way justify the occupation.

The policy of faits accomplis also conflicts with a fundamental principle of the UN Charter, namely the nonrecognition of the occupation of foreign territory through force. Therefore, though there are complications stemming from the creation of urban developments in the Arab part of Jerusalem and by the new topographical factors, we must also state that they do not in the least prevent the liberation of the territories and the restoration of Palestinian sovereignty to them, thus giving the Palestinian people the opportunity to freely exercise their own right to self-determination.

The Palestinians--Christians, Muslims and Jews--are the real owners of the Holy City. Therefore, the existence of churches, mosques or synagogues as holy places to which the faithful of all these three religions have access does not imply that believers who come to practice their religious rights share sovereignty with its owners over the land where the holy places stand.

All the settlements built on occupied territory and the urban developments that have appeared in the city of Jerusalem or its vicinity are illegal factors that must be eliminated. There is a precedent for Israel which, after the signing of the Camp David agreements, demolished many of the settlements which it built in Sinai.

Camp David "Blind Alley"

[Question] Let us talk about the Camp David agreements. Carter regarded them as one of his--few--diplomatic successes, or partial successes. But now some changes are being envisaged. What do you expect from the Reagan administration?

[Answer] The Camp David agreements have entered a blind alley, because these agreements ignored the central point of the Middle East problem, namely the Palestinian issue. Instead of starting to seek solutions proceeding from the origins, the consequences of the problem were taken as the starting point. The Camp David agreements led to separate negotiations between Egypt and Israel, which reached an immediate impasse on the issue of administrative autonomy.

This administrative autonomy, already rejected by the Palestinian people both under occupation and outside the occupied territories, was seen by the Israeli Government as a formula for reorganizing the policy of occupation. And Egypt, which from the outset depended on U.S. pressure on the Israeli state, only managed to secure a number of postponements of the meetings. The Camp David train has been stationary for some time, but now the crisis has deteriorated. Reagan has made some statements, from which one can infer that he wants something worse. As far as Begin is concerned, during his government's last few days he has tried to extend the terms of the colonization of the occupied territories. Al-Sadat now awaits the unknown.

The position of the PLO and the Palestinian people with regard to this scenario is very clear. We say that the path of peace in the region passes through the doorway of justice, and justice in the Middle East implies basically the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

The remarks made today by Reagan, however, seem to be taking us back to the U.S. policy of the years 1967-1970. But we reply confidently to the attempts to eliminate the Palestinian people's resistance that what did not succeed before or after September 1970 will not succeed now either, partly because in the meantime the strength of the Palestinian revolution has grown, as has world recognition of the PLO as our people's legitimate representatives, while the Palestinian people's unity both under occupation and outside the occupied territories has become even firmer.

There is no doubt that Reagan's remarks prompt our concern, just as they do in the majority of states throughout the world, since the latter do not want to return to cold war and antagonism. But as far as we are concerned, we have no alternative than to continue our struggle until we return to our homeland, whether Reagan likes it or not. But it seems opportune to point out that, after the signing of the Camp David agreements, then national security adviser Brzezinski said "bye bye PLO." [in English]. Now Brzezinski has gone, but the PLO still exists.

On the other hand, while it is true that we harbor well-founded fears prompted by Reagan's statements, we must also state that on the political plane he is still an unknown quantity and has not yet exercised the kind of executive power in the United States which would make it possible to assess him. We will be able to do so in the months ahead. Some people say that Democrats start wars and Republicans settle them. U.S. presidents always reflect the interests of the U.S. monopolies, and the U.S. multinationals' interests are very great in the Arab countries, particularly in the oil-producing countries. This could perhaps influence Reagan's policy in the future.

[Question] For some years Europe has been adopting a stance on the Middle East crisis that the PLO has judged not ideal but satisfactory. Europe's position has developed as far as the Venice declaration. But it is a fact that the

Europeans' declarations have never been followed by specific actions. On the other hand, what specifically could Europe do to assist the Palestinian people, and their self-determination in particular?

[Answer] Let us proceed from the following fact: Europe and the Arab world are two worlds between which there exists some opportunity for economic integration. While it is true that it is impossible to separate European from Mediterranean security, it is equally true that Middle East and European security are two equally inseparable factors.

Therefore, it is necessary for Europe that the Middle East region be free from conflict: this, because Europe's capacity for competitiveness, compared to that of the superpowers, is small, and if there is a crisis in oil supplies to Europe, it means danger. All these considerations lie at the root of the European initiative, which began in 1973, with respect to the Middle East. Nevertheless, we believe that the European position has not yet risen to the level of Europe's real interests in our region.

Following the Venice declaration, which we described as a positive but insufficient step, there began the visits by then duty president of the Council of Europe Gaston Thorn. He was thus able to identify the stubborn parties who reject the logic of a just peace in the Middle East. Everyone knows that Israel is constantly trying to force the United States to exert pressure on the Europeans. And in fact hitherto these pressures have been the reason for the absence of a bold European initiative. To the question "what can Europe do?" We have always replied that Europe can do a great deal. It can influence the United States; it can state openly that the Middle East problem lies basically in the fact that the Palestinian people have been expelled from their land and deprived of their right to self-determination; it can release an explicit declaration condemning the occupation of the territories, with all that such a declaration would imply with regard to political consequences, such as the recognition of the PLO. Europe can do all this, and this is what we are asking for from the West European governments.

But what we are asking for from the European leftwing forces, especially by the European socialist comrades, is that these forces succeed in clearly translating their historical commitment alongside the struggle to eliminate all forms of racism, for peace and for the peoples' right to self-determination. We [word indistinct] the fact that part of this European left still confuses--though we do not know whether this is due to misinformation or is deliberate--Jews as individuals, as an ethnic group or as a religious community with the State of Israel, to the extent that it fails to see clearly the barbarous and terrorist expansionist policy that this state is pursuing against the Palestinian people. We can understand solidarity with the Jewish victims of Nazism and fascism, indeed we feel this ourselves, but what fault is it of the Palestinians, that they should still have to pay compensation for the victims of Nazism and fascism?

Something New in Israel

[Question] On the other hand, history always teaches someone something. Just as there has been an evolution in the PLO, we know that in Israel there is an increasingly broad movement, though not yet a majority, in favor of a more open attitude to the Palestinians. This movement comprises the people who have established explicit relations with the PLO. What is your approach to this sector of the Israelis? Would you be willing to meet with other Israeli representatives, and if so on what bases?

[Answer] There are changes in Israel, apart from the ones connected with the emergence of movements such as peace-equality for Israel, the Black Panthers or part of the United Workers Party. It is Israeli society as a whole that is undergoing a process of change. Some half-a-million Israelis prefer to live in the United States. Inflation in Israel has reached unprecedented levels of 130-140 percent. Hundreds of young Israelis are refusing military service, at least in the occupied territories. Thousands of other youngsters are refusing a 3-year military service, after which they are obliged to attend periodical exercises. The basic reason for all this lies in the fact that Israeli society no longer accepts living in a continuous state of war. Some Israeli writers are saying that Israel has reached early senility. The real situation seems to support the thesis of those who assert that oppressors are eventually struck by the curse of the oppressed. It is the Israeli Government which rejects the principle of dialogue with the PLO and claims that the only possible language with this organization is that of weapons. Our national council, the PLO's top decision-making authority, has adopted a resolution that permits contacts with all forces recognizing our national right. In the Knesset, however, a draft resolution has been presented which envisages considering any contact by an Israeli citizen with a PLO representative equivalent to contact with the enemy and subject to penal sanctions. Not only are we open to dialogue but, ever since the birth of our revolution, we have been in favor of coexistence.

[Question] The PLO asserts that it has undergone an evolution with respect to its initial, let us say historical, stance, whereby you envisaged a single secular state including a single form of government for the Jewish people and the Palestinians. What specific kind of evolution have you undergone in recent years?

[Answer] Initially we argued as follows: There is the land, Palestine, with a limited surface, on which two peoples exist who both claim ownership of it. So we said to ourselves: Instead of fighting, why do we not learn to coexist? So, just as we have changed a situation, we in turn have been influenced by the same reality, which is a revolutionary reality. This is the difference between the revolutionary and the terrorist.

We have realized that to achieve the democratic state, which remains a dream for us, we must first surmount many vestiges of the past. First we must learn to know each other and to understand our positions. Hence, our decision to begin the dialogue with the Jewish forces that recognize our national rights, and hence too our national council's decision concerning the unification of the independent Palestinian state on any price of land that is liberated or evacuated.

Subsequently came the decisions taken by the Arab summits in Baghdad and Tunis, which we of the PLO also attended, which established that the aim is to restore the territories occupied in 1967 to the Arabs and to create the objective conditions for the Palestinian people, under the PLO leadership, to be able to create their own independent state. This is an important evolution.

All Charges Documented

[Question] What is the present situation with regard to the struggle method and the means that the PLO has decided to adopt?

[Answer] I must state first that the State of Israel has always rejected all the UN resolutions ever since its inception and continues to reject them even today. Israel has only one logic--the logic of force. So in response to the nature of the Israeli occupation of our territories we adopt our struggle methods, which take the following forms: 1) The armed struggle against the occupation; 2) the political struggle among our people's ranks both under occupation and outside the occupied territories, and the political struggle among the Jews themselves both in Palestine and among world public opinion; 3) diplomatic activity with respect to all world governments and through the international organizations.

[Question] We can see, however, that within the PLO there is a minority that does not accept the majority's decisions and in some cases adopts its own strategy. What is more, these minority groups, like it or not, eventually become associated with countries which demand a political--but not only political--price for their aid. How does the PLO's majority group believe it can resolve this problem?

[Answer] It is true. The exercise of democracy is always a difficult task--especially in the situation in which the Palestinian people find themselves, with some of them living under occupation and others in exile in many of the world's countries. The Palestinian revolution itself has its headquarters on territory that is not its own, which serves as a political and military base. PLO chairman 'Arafat has summed up this situation in the following effective sentence: "This is the flying carpet revolution."

Despite these difficult conditions, the shared desire of all Palestinians to return to their own land and to establish an independent state there constitutes an element of unity among all classes and groups. This shared element means that every political undertaking is made in relation to the national objective and that any ideology that overrides the Palestinian people's national reality is isolated and left without any mass support.

Every form of outside backing must be at the service of Palestinian interests, not the interests of whoever offers the aid. I can state that we have managed to maintain this line of national conduct in very difficult situations.

It is true that we have maintained this line of conduct with some difficulty and amid a number of erroneous individual actions, but I can also state that it is within the context of the PLO that the Palestinians' democratic and

patriotic relations in their national struggle take place. The firm reference point valid for everyone within the PLO context is the Palestinian National Council, which represents all the Palestinian political organizations, social strata and communities in the various parts of the world.

[Question] Let us return to Europe and discuss the worries concerning its stability, which of course depends mainly on the European countries' ability to defend themselves on their own at least against internal threats of destabilization. But ever since the Munich massacre of 1972 there has been talk about foreign collusion and support for German terrorism. Subsequently, this has also been discussed in connection with terrorism in Italy.

There has also been talk of an evolution in the PLO with regard to this issue. At first, there was real support, a kind of cooperation. Later the PLO declared, and in fact demonstrated, that it was abandoning this kind of struggle, which was entirely unacceptable. Nevertheless, there is still talk about camps in South Yemen and even in Iraq and Libya, and about support for terrorism from certain sectors, such as Hasash's, with regard to training. What can you say in this connection?

[Answer] On the subject of terrorism, allow me to describe two phases. The first phase began in 1965, when the Palestinian revolution was born, and lasted until 1972. During this phase there was no terrorism in Italy or Germany. Despite this, the European mass media generally acted as spokesman for Israeli propaganda against us and talked in terms of terrorists, though all liberation movements are initially accused of terrorism. Israel wants to accuse the Palestinian people's struggle of terrorism, to make allegations of terrorism against it and to take every opportunity to talk about terrorism.

The second phase was when forms of terrorism began in certain European countries, especially Germany and Italy. So let us talk about Italy. With regard to foreign operations carried out by Palestinians, we have expressed our verdict and have also adopted specific decisions, such as the death sentence passed on the man responsible for the 1973 attack at Fiumicino Airport.

When certain charges began to be made against us and supposed Palestinian links with terrorism were ascribed to us, we did not hesitate one instant to condemn terrorism in Italy and declared that terrorism aids our enemies, because we know that it leads to the strengthening of the currents of the militarist right and strikes at the heart of democracy.

We have asked the Italian authorities concerned to supply us with any evidence that might prove possible Palestinian links with the Italian terrorist forces. This happened before the kidnapping of Aldo Moro. We did so again after Moro's kidnapping and assassination and we still hold the same positions: we condemn terrorism and assert that no Palestinian sector or group has any kind of link with Italian terrorism, and any kind of specific proof that might be submitted in confirmation of possible terrorist links with any Palestinian organizations will receive the undivided attention of the PLO leaders.

This has been announced more than once by PLO Chairman 'Arafat.

In the newspapers and the mass media in general charges are sometimes made against Libya, at other times against Iraq and South Yemen, and mostly when this is discussed the opportunity is taken to involve the Palestinians. But we reply that the validity of these accusations cannot be entrusted to words alone. Proof must be produced. We must also point out the latest statements by the Italian investigating magistrates published in LA REPUBBLICA, from which it emerges that these people have no certainty regarding Italian terrorism's supposed foreign links. Their remarks, which have generally been considered more credible than what can be published in the newspapers, are floating in a context of hypothesis. It is not enough for a newspaper or other mass communication medium to make accusations for these accusations to become a valid political yardstick for assessing an interlocutor or organization. To assert that the Palestinians are helping Italian terrorism implies falling into the trap laid by Israeli propaganda especially at present, when there is talk of a European initiative on behalf of the Palestinians' national right.

Terrorism Is Our Enemy Too

I would now like to recall the episode when an Israeli secret service agent presented himself at the Italian Embassy in Cairo as a Palestinian, claiming that the Palestinians were planning an attack on the U.S. ambassador in Rome. This information proved to be fabrication by the Israeli secret services, since the Italian secret services discovered that the supposed Palestinian was an officer in the Israeli secret services, no less, who had parachuted into Egyptian territory from an Israeli helicopter.

[Question] On the other hand, we do know that in the past a sector of the Italian secret services, headed by General Miceli, boasted of maintaining relations with terrorists linked with Libya. Furthermore, there is something more definite. I am talking about the Pifano case. We know that Pifano, accused of terrorism in Italy, was captured carrying in his car a weapon which it was subsequently claimed should have been on its way through Italy to reach its final destination in the Middle East. Indeed, there was later a restitution request from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], Habish's faction. Obviously such a traffic--assuming that it did take place like this--cannot have happened without repayment, with nothing in exchange. What do you believe you can say in this regard?

[Answer] During this interview I said in answer to another question, about the exercise of democracy within our organization, that relations with any interlocutor, on whatever side, are based on our interests, not those of the partner offering aid. As far as the Pifano case is concerned, I must say that the PLO leaders have examined the issue with a great sense of responsibility and very seriously from the outset.

We informed the Italian authorities concerned of the real nature of the events, having gathered reliable information from the PFLP leaders. They stated without a shadow of a doubt that it was Pifano who offered his services to the PFLP to help it transfer arms confiscated within the occupied territories. Therefore, the PFLP was not the partner which did Pifano a service, but the opposite.

The PFLP leaders have assured us that they knew absolutely nothing about Pifano's connections with terrorism in Italy. They added that they would have declined Pifano's offer to help had they known of these connections.

I confirm that no organization of part of the Palestinian people or their legitimate representative, the PLO, have the least desire to support Italian terrorism: indeed, the opposite is true. We want to strengthen democracy in Italy because within the context of democracy in Italy we have managed to carry out the vast transformation in public opinion in favor of our cause. We know that it is our enemy which at present wants to carry out another transformation, against our cause.

[Question] I would like to know whether it is true that it was thanks to information from the PLO that a number of German terrorists were arrested some time ago, and I would also like to know whether you are aware of other similar episodes, either unknown or little known, and whether you can tell us about them.

[Answer] With regard to the German terrorists arrested in Beirut by our security services, everything to do with this operation was published at the time.

Whatever existed between the capture of those terrorists and the events in Bologna have also been published.

All this is an indication of the fact that the Palestinian apparatus responsible for security and combating terrorism does no more than carry out the political decisions taken by the PLO leadership. These decisions are clear: we are opposed to terrorism because we are its victims. For a revolution that achieves victory terrorism is a form of political immaturity and constitutes one of the major threats to its survival.

With regard to the German terrorists, we said at the time enough to prove that the Palestinian secret services' reports were based on credible information and that, moreover, they were willing to cooperate with the bodies responsible for security and combating terrorism in Italy.

In our relations of cooperation we make no conditions, as the Israelis did at the time of Moro's kidnapping, when they made the offer of their electronic search and detection equipment subject to the closure of the PLO office in Italy and the expulsion of its members.

Our security bodies work silently because we are aware of the importance and complexity of the Palestinian issue and know that the path before us is very thorny.

CSO: 3104

SPOKESMAN CRITICIZES NEGATIVE NORWEGIAN VIEW OF PLO

LD240949 Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 19 Feb 81 p 19

[Report by Lise Borchgrevink: "Norway Backward"]

[Text] "It is Israel which is the aggressive party in the Middle East. With the help of U.S. money the Israelis are building colonies on occupied Palestinian territory. With the help of U.S. arms people are being killed in Lebanon every day. Some 600,000 people have become refugees because of the evacuation of 60-70 percent of settlements in south Lebanon," PLO official spokesman Mahmud Labadi said at a press conference in Oslo on Wednesday [18 February].

During his visit to Norway he has had talks at the Foreign Ministry and with a number of representatives of political parties. "Now 117 states have recognized the PLO. The vast majority of European countries have made much greater progress in this question than Norway," Labadi said, mentioning France, Italy, Spain, even Britain. He was very disappointed with the Norwegian Government, whereas he noticed more positive attitudes in the "liberal" parties. And he added that the PLO will work to persuade the Arab countries to limit their trade with Norway."

[Question] Peres has announced that if the Labor Party wins the election in Israel it will work for peace negotiations with Jordan. Peres will be willing to give up parts of the West Bank. Why does the PLO reject this plan?

[Answer] Israel will not negotiate with the PLO, but turns to Husayn instead. There are 1 million Jordanians compared with 4 million Palestinians. We need no King Husayn to speak for us. The Peres plan does not involve an independent Palestinian state, but merely places parts of the West Bank under the military control of Israel/Jordan. In addition, Peres wants to retain large parts of the occupied areas, including Jerusalem, and reserves the right to further colonization in these areas.

There is no great difference between Peres and Begin, apart from the fact that Peres is smarter. He is now trying to win over the Socialist International. But in the long run he cannot hide the facts, Labadi said. He reminded us that it was not Begin's party which began the colonization in the West Bank, but the Labor Party.

[Question] Is the PLO now willing to recognize Israel?

[Answer] That would be to turn the problem on its head. We are met with daily aggression, against which we have to defend ourselves whether we are refugees or live under occupation. It is Israel which has tried to annihilate us. Israel does not want to recognize us except as second-class citizens or cheap labor. We demand that Israel withdraw fully from the areas occupied in 1967. If Israel's attitudes to us changed, by their recognizing an independent Palestinian state under PLO leadership, then Palestinians' attitude to Israel would also change.

CSO: 3108

OAPEC STUDIES ENERGY CONSUMPTION

London 8 DAYS in English 7 Feb 81 pp 44-45

[Article by Nigel Ash]

[Text]

A NEW OAPEC study has produced figures to show that while energy consumption in Arab countries has doubled in recent years, their per capita consumption is still less than a third of the world average. Between 1960 and 1975, commercial energy consumption in the Middle East increased annually by around 8.6 per cent from 17.1m tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) to 59m toe. During the same period the world average consumption grew by only 4.3 per cent per annum.

However, these percentages offer no comfort to western interests who have taken to hinting that, while Arab oil producers have pressed industrial countries to economise in their use of oil and gas, they themselves have done little to control their own consumption. The study shows that the average per capita energy consumption in the Arab world in 1976 was only 465kg of oil equivalent (kgoe) per annum. In contrast the average world per capita consumption was 1407 kgoe, for Western Europe 2918 kgoe, and 4346 kgoe for what the Oapec report calls curiously 'developed countries' (presumably the US and Japan).

On this basis, it is calculated that for Arab energy consumption to rise to 1976 western levels, their power use would have to expand by 12.4 per cent annually until the year 2000.

These are the main conclusions of an extensive econometrical exercise carried out by Oapec's chief economist Ali T

Sadik, assisted by Hamdi Saleh, the manager of the International Economics Department of the Iraqi oil ministry, and Oapec statistician Mohammed al Badrawi. The paper, entitled *Energy Demand Forecasts for the Arab Countries in 1985, 1990 and 2000*, was read to the First Arab Energy Conference held in Abu Dhabi.

As with all mathematical models, this study is hemmed in with variables. It works on the basis that in 1975 the Arab population was 141 m, had increased to 161.4m in 1980, and will rise to 267m by the year 2000.

The study notes that, for all Arab countries, natural gas consumption has shown the highest growth, increasing from 8.2 per cent of total energy use in 1960 to 31.7 per cent in 1975. Against this, the proportion of liquid fuels declined from 86.6 per cent in 1960 to 63.3 per cent.

It concludes that both increasing GDP and population growth stimulate aggregate energy consumption — but that even if the GDP does not rise, as is expected in some countries like Mauritania, Algeria and Tunisia, energy usage will still increase, faster than population.

They also observe that when poor countries get richer, their energy consumption shows a proportionately greater increase than if a rich country gets still richer. This is doubtless because new wealth brings a demand for consumer durables.

Total Commercial Energy Consumption and Production in the Arab Countries (10⁶ mtoe: 1m tonnes oil equivalent)

COUNTRY	1960		1965		1970		1973		1975		1976	
	Prod.	Cons.	Prod.	Cons.	Prod.	Cons.	Prod.	Cons.	Prod.	Cons.	Prod.	Cons.
Algeria	8.8	0.85	28.2	1.36	51.0	3.33	55.0	4.99	55.7	5.42	62.3	8.57
Bahrain	2.3	0.044	2.9	0.093	4.1	0.39	4.9	1.56	4.9	2.1	4.9	2.16
Egypt	3.4	5.24	6.7	6.21	16.9	6.23	8.9	7.34	13.4	10.72	18.5	12.24
Iraq	48.0	2.30	64.8	2.86	77.2	4.07	100.5	4.94	112.7	5.33	114.1	5.69
Kuwait	85.7	2.0	120.5	2.34	156.2	4.83	158.8	6.23	111.8	5.83	115.0	6.45
Libyan												
Jama'iriya	0.88	0.23	58.5	0.33	180.0	0.73	109.5	1.19	78.4	1.82	99.0	2.75
Saudi Arabia	64.5	1.09	114.4	2.56	192.0	4.45	384.0	5.63	363.0	10.51	438.0	11.95
Syria	0.002	1.0	0.004	1.11	4.4	2.14	5.7	2.22	9.6	3.51	10.2	3.65
United Arab Emirates	0.8	0.006	13.6	0.018	38.0	0.86	75.7	1.80	82.8	2.07	96.1	2.08
TOTAL OAPEC	222.58	13.82	420.9	17.90	718.1	28.04	931.9	37.17	853.7	48.84	983.8	57.37
Jordan	—	0.23	—	0.40	—	0.48	—	0.60	—	0.75	—	1.0
Tunisia	0.01	0.49	0.02	0.69	4.2	0.91	4.0	1.33	4.8	1.70	3.9	1.79
Lebanon	0.028	0.70	0.04	0.94	0.07	1.12	0.04	1.98	0.07	1.81	0.07	1.07
Morocco	0.45	1.17	0.5	1.43	0.49	1.90	0.58	2.70	0.82	3.13	0.85	3.31
Mauritania	—	0.012	—	0.053	—	0.113	—	0.102	—	0.097	—	0.103
Oman	—	0.001	—	0.008	16.6	0.09	14.6	0.122	17.0	0.247	18.3	0.374
Somalia	—	0.029	—	0.045	—	0.074	—	0.075	—	0.103	—	0.103
Sudan	—	0.415	0.003	0.761	0.008	1.38	0.017	1.44	0.027	1.78	0.033	1.77
Qatar	8.2	0.063	11.0	0.12	18.3	1.01	28.9	1.27	23.4	1.53	25.7	1.63
Yemen A.R.	—	0.02	—	0.04	—	0.07	—	0.13	—	0.22	—	0.19
Yemen, P.D.R.	—	0.20	—	0.37	—	0.45	—	0.51	—	0.38	—	0.39
TOTAL NON-OAPEC ARAB	0.47	3.27	0.56	4.74	21.4	6.59	19.24	6.99	22.52	10.22	22.95	10.1
TOTAL ARAB COUNTRIES	223.1	17.09	421.5	22.64	739.5	34.63	951.1	46.16	876.2	59.06	1006.8	57.47

PARTY OPENS CHAMBER FOR CLERGY

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 15 Feb 81 p 1

[Text]

KABUL, Feb. 15, (Bakhtar).— To make better use of the views of the patriotic religious scholars and clergy and providing the opportunity for them to establish contact with the Party and government authorities, the chamber of clergy was inaugurated at the 5th party precinct of Kabul yesterday.

Prior to the opening of the chamber, the recitation of Holy Kuran took place. Then useful discussions were held on the active participation of the patriotic religious scholars and clergy towards realization of the useful plans of the party and government.

A source of the 5th Party precinct of Kabul said that establishment of the clergy chamber is in line with the DRA government policy for supporting the holy religion of Islam and that of appropriate customs and traditions of our

people. Our noble clergy and scholars can carry out fruitful activities towards flourishing the homeland and prosperity of our working compatriots by getting together in this chamber and establishing contact with the party members.

The ceremony was attended by officials concerned of the 5th Party precinct and incharge of publicity, extension and education of the city committee and some noble clergy.

FRIDAY PRAYER OFFERED FOR PARTY

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 23 Feb 81 p 4

[Text]

FAIZABAD, Feb. 23, (Bakhtar).— Hundreds of devout and toiling inhabitants of the Faizabad center of Badakhshan province, during the Friday prayer on February 20 prayed for the prosperity of their dear Afghanistan and wished further success to the party and the DRA government in realising the objectives of the evolutionary phase of the Saur Revolution. They also prayed for the defeat of the enemies of the people and the revolution, and expressed all-out solidarity with the

national and progressive Government.

The governor of Badakhshan participated in the Friday prayers. He spoke to the people about the successes of the evolutionary phase of the Saur Revolution and told them of the support and respect of the national government for Islam and for the traditions of the people. He also pleaded for the active cooperation of the hardworking people of Badakhshan province in order to make the best use of the success of the government.

CSO: 4920

MORE GAS TO BE EXPORTED TO USSR

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 1 Feb 81 p 1

[Text]

KABUL, Feb. 21, (Bakhtar).— An increase of over four billion afghanis is envisaged in the sale of natural gas to the Soviet Union.

The Government's revenues from the natural gas sale to the friendly country of Soviet Union will amount to more than Afa. 13.5 billion in 1981 which will be over four billion afghanis more than in 1980 .

This was revealed by the head of the Afghan delegation, who has arrived here from Moscow after talks and signing of agreement on natural gas export from the DRA to the USSR during 1981..

Eng. Nawabi, President of Afghanistan National Petroleum Institute, and head of the Afghan delegation, added that, after talks with concerned Soviet authorities, which were carried out in an atmosphere of full understanding the price of export-

able natural gas for 1981 was assessed and determined on the basis of prevailing international norms. This will spell a considerable hike in the price.

Similarly, the Afghan delegation during its stay in Moscow, held talks useful on issues of mutual interest with a number of other firms of the Soviet Union, which have economic and technical cooperation with the Afghanistan National Petroleum Institute, he added.

CSO: 4920

WOOL EXPORTS TO INCREASE DRASTICALLY

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 15 Feb 81 p 1

[Text]

An increase of 80 percent is anticipated in the export of wool this year.

According to its current year plan the Wool Enterprise was to export a total of 500 tons wools but due to the increased activity of the company and the active participation of the workers and employees of this enterprise 900 tons have been exported counting for 80 percent of what was planned for the current year.

Disclosing the above Dr. Mohammad Zahir Bariz President of the Wool Enterprise of the Ministry of Commerce in an interview with the reporter of the Kabul New Times said: The enterprise has been able to buy a total amount of 1534 tons wool through its branches in Kandahar, Herat and Balkh during the current year costing 117 million Afghanis. The wool has been bought at the fixed daily price.

Asked when the purchase campaign of the enterprise usually starts President of the Wool Enterprise of the Ministry of Commerce said:

The campaign usually starts from early days of the first month of the year and will last until the end of the first half of the year.

Dr. Bariz said: During the year 1358 the wool enterprise had bought 456 tons wool but during the current year the firm has so far been able to buy 1534 tons wool.

The wool enterprise has been established with an initial capital of 300 million Afghanis on the basis of the decision of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan within the framework of the Ministry of Commerce.

The enterprise is a profit-making organisation and was established in 1357 with the object to protect and help the cattle raisers and contribute towards the development of the national economy. Though the wool enterprise according to its charter has started operation as a monopoly to purchase wool, due to a number of reasons this objective was not accomplished and

according to the order and instruction of the Prime Ministry individual traders, public organisations and cooperatives were permitted to purchase and export wool along with the Wool Enterprise of the Ministry of Commerce.

The wool needed by the Wool Enterprise is purchased through its three branch offices established in three provinces according to the following arrangement:

1—The karakul wool is purchased by the Balkh Branch Office and after its dust is removed it is packed and made ready for export.

2—The white and coloured wool is bought through the Herat Agency and after being washed in the special pools it is packed

and made ready for export.

3—The third province where wool is purchased by the Wool Enterprise is Kandahar. The wool is washed there and then packed and get prepared for export. The wool purchased by this enterprise is exported to the Soviet Union through the Hairatan Port.

The wool is purchased from the above three provinces at different rates and are packed according to varying sorts and colours.

At the end Dr. Bariz said the wool enterprise has in view to open two other branch offices in the GAZNI and KUNDUZ provinces in an attempt to increase the amount of export from 500 tons to 1000 tons as anticipated in plan worked out for 1960.

RESOLUTIONS OF FLN CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOURTH SESSION

Algiers REVOLUTION AFRICAINE in French 16-22 Jan 81 (Special Supplement) pp 1-23

[Document issued by the FLN Central Committee; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] GENERAL POLICY

[The FLN Central Committee] after having heard the important introductory remarks made by brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, secretary general of the party, at the opening of the session.

After the discussions and debates which were characterized by a militant and responsible spirit and by frankness [franchise] both in the plenary sessions and in the committee meetings, debates which covered the subjects on the agenda of the session.

Bows respectfully before the victims of the catastrophe of El-Asnam and expresses its solidarity with the stricken people as it expresses its pride regarding the solidarity shown by the Algerian people as a whole as well as by fraternal and friendly countries. It praises the efforts being made by all the organs of the party, the state, and the mass organizations, as well as the great works being done by the People's National Army [ANP] for the citizens of the region.

Pays homage to the clear policy adopted by the political directorate headed by militant brother Chadli Bendjedid, the positive results of which have been observed in the various sectors of the country since the fourth congress and the special congress of the FLN Party and the various sessions of the Central Committee.

Forcefully supports the wise guidance of brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, secretary general of the party, aimed at realization of the deep aspirations of the masses with a view to cleansing the society and the enterprises, correcting mistakes, and confronting deviations with firmness and determination.

Expresses its satisfaction with the considerable effort exerted by the party and the state to consolidate the gains of the socialist revolution as set out in the National Charter and the decisions of the fourth congress and the special congress of the party.

Supports all the legal measures which have been and will be taken against all those who plot against the good of the people and the state.

Notes with satisfaction the new method adopted in the evaluation of the activities of the party and the government, and the inauguration of direct dialog between the directorate and the local authorities represented by the governorate coordination bureaux.

Expresses its satisfaction with the beginning of the 1980-1984 5-year plan and calls for the mobilization of all the strength and energy of the country to assure its success and fulfillment.

Recalls in this connection, the guidance of brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, secretary general of the party, regarding administrative competence, growth of production, improvement in productivity, and the practice of supervisory monitoring, and exhorts the productive forces and the cadres to deploy all possible efforts toward achieving the aspirations of our people for progress and development.

The Central Committee notes with satisfaction the considerable progress made in party organization in various instances and at all levels, especially with respect to administration and provision of a budget appropriate to the political missions set out in its annual program of activities.

It notes with satisfaction the implementation of Article 120 of the party bylaws, which is designed to create harmony between the party and its mass organizations and will permit dynamic and positive interaction between the militants in their continuing activity aimed at putting into operation the options of the National Charter, particularly as embodied in the 5-year plan, as well as organization of coordination councils in the communes and the governorates in accordance with the various development missions in the political-economic social and cultural areas which require joint efforts and complementarity of structures in the accomplishment of mutual obligations.

The Central Committee is pleased with the positive initiative taken by the party in presenting to the political directorate its annual program of action along with a report synthesizing actions taken in application of the decisions of the Central Committee by the organs of the party and the state, a report which permits all the members to follow and assess all accomplishments.

The Central Committee recalls the decisions taken during the second and third sessions relative to establishment of the price of exported natural gas and insists on a revaluation of the price of this substance, taking into account the fact that it is a precious nonrenewable energy product.

Energy: A Spirit of Responsibility

Supports the action of OPEC aimed at protecting and improving the purchasing power not only of crude oil but also of its immediate substitute, natural gas.

Considering the pertinent resolutions at the nonaligned summit in Havana and the decisions of the OPEC conference in Caracas and Algiers relating to the necessity of strengthening cooperation between developing countries.

Supports all actions aimed at guaranteeing energy supplies for developing countries, particularly the most disadvantaged.

Is pleased with the actions undertaken by our country with a view to directly supplying other developing countries, and in particular other African countries, within the framework of regional concertation with other oil-exporting countries.

Supports the actions taken at the OPEC level to create a development bank endowed with sufficient capital to provide concrete assistance to other countries of the Third World.

The Central Committee salutes the decision of brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, secretary general of the party, to establish the superior council for the popularization of the national language, in application of the decisions of the third session, and also notes with satisfaction the decision naming secretaries of mouhafadha among the members of the Central Committee.

All this basically tends to reinforce the ranks of the party so that it can develop continuously parallel with the development of the revolution. This works constantly for a party strong in its organization and in its decisions to consolidate the ANP and continuously develop its capabilities in order to remain always the spearhead of the revolution and its gains.

The Central Committee has examined the energy question meticulously and with a spirit of responsibility, taking into account the importance this resource represents. It has taken into account, in its analysis, the benefits which it offers for present and future generations. In this context, the Central Committee recommends that vigilance be maintained over this sector, that new energy sources be sought, and that it be managed carefully with regard for the strategic imperatives of economic, social, and military development.

In this context, the gains in this area do not relieve us of the responsibility to continue evaluating and revising in order to avoid mistakes and negative actions.

On the other hand, the Central Committee recommends, on the basis of the principle "count only on yourself," that all efforts be coordinated so that our national economy does not depend exclusively on energy revenues.

The socialist policy of the country makes health a fundamental right of the citizen, a right consecrated by the National Charter, the constitution, and the resolutions of the fourth congress and the special congress of the FLN Party.

Health: A Basic Objective

Health being one of the fundamental needs of man, the preservation of the physical, mental, and moral integrity of the citizen constitutes one of the basic objectives of the social policy of the country. The fourth party congress emphasized the special urgency of finding a solution to social problems, particularly in regard to health, and recommended in its resolutions "that all measures capable of improving the health situation by the establishment of an integrated health program be taken quickly, which necessarily implies the mobilization of all human, financial, and organizational resources in order to make free medical care a reality throughout the entire national territory."

The special congress reaffirmed that free health care is an irreversible choice constituting the basis of the social policy guaranteeing to the entire population the right to the real and democratic benefits of treatment, by virtue of the primary role played by the public sector.

On the basis of these directives, health was the subject of an extensive national debate enlisting the active participation of all citizens through party organizations, mass organizations and professional unions, with the close collaboration in various ways of all the state organs concerned.

An important debate and in-depth discussions were held on the health question within the party Central Committee aimed at drawing up as exhaustive a review as possible of the health situation of the country and drawing the broad lines of a national health policy founded on the fundamental options and answering to the basic needs of the citizen.

In the context of the analysis of this issue, the Central Committee did not fail to recall the role played by the medical corps and the health workers in the war of national liberation and just following independence by taking in hand the health organizations of the completely unsettled country, thus remaining faithful to the example of their brothers fallen on the field of honor.

The Central Committee reaffirms the attachment of the FLN Party and the Algerian people to the principles of freedom, justice and independence. In this context the Central Committee expresses its determination to pursue the struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, Zionism, and racism.

It reiterates its support for nonalignment and works to strengthen the defense of the legitimate rights of the peoples of the Third World with a view to participating in the establishment of peace in the world and launching a new international economic order guaranteeing equity and balance between North and South while forever ending all forms of domination and exploitation.

It reaffirms the absolute support of the party and the state for the Palestinian people who are struggling bravely to recover their legitimate rights, independence, and sovereignty.

The Central Committee notes with satisfaction the farsighted positions of the political directorate whose objective is to close Arab ranks and adopt a unified position to defend the legitimate rights of the Arab nation. In this connection we recall the recent tour made by brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, secretary general of the party, to the Arab countries and the results which ensued.

The Central Committee pays homage to the political and military victories which the Saharan people, under the banner of the POLISARIO Front, continue ceaselessly to win.

The Central Committee considers that the resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly during its third session constitutes a new victory adding to those already won.

The Central Committee reiterates the support of the Algerian people for the Saharan people in their struggle for total liberation and the exercise of their right to self-determination. Algeria, faithful to its principles, affirms its availability [disponibilite] to take part in all initiatives aimed at reestablishing peace and stability in the region, thereby permitting the Saharan people to exercise their right to self-determination.

Expresses its intense concern regarding the armed confrontation between the two fraternal peoples of Iraq and Iran, which threatens the region and is capable of promoting the penetration of imperialism, racism, and Zionism.

Launches a new fraternal and serious appeal to the leaders of each of the two fraternal countries to put an end to the bloodshed between brothers and to accept the declaration of the Political Bureau issued following its meeting on 19 November 1980.

Finally, the Central Committee is pleased with the climate of frankness and the sense of responsibility which prevailed throughout the labors of this session. It expresses its satisfaction with the positive results which crowned its efforts and reiterates its total support for brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, secretary general of the party, in fulfilling the aspiration of the masses and guaranteeing the continuity of the revolution and the building of the socialist society.

ORGANIC

The Central Committee,

--In fulfillment of the principles of the National Charter and in application of the decisions of the special congress,

--Considering the provisions of the bylaws, particularly Articles 25 and 26, and in application of Articles 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, and 84 of the internal rules of the party,

General Principles

Resolves:

Article 1. The authorities of the party and the state will provide general coordination at all levels.

Article 2. The secretary general of the party and president of the republic embodies the unity of direction of the party and the state and presides over the joint meetings of the organs of the party and the state.

Article 3. The rules for coordination at the local level comply, in accordance with Article 126 of the party bylaws, with the provisions of the present decision.

Article 4. The coordinating councils are considered a coordinating structure which works within the general organization of the party and the state.

The Objectives

Article 5. The relations between the party and state organs within the coordinating councils constitute objective and democratic relations between the various political and local administrative authorities.

Article 6. The coordinating councils of the commune and the governorate are versed in all activities of a political, economic, social, or cultural nature appropriate to the commune or the governorate.

Article 7. The coordinating councils of the commune and the governorate will work within the framework of the powers conferred on them in conformity with the principles of the National Charter, resolutions of the congresses, decisions of the Central Committee, the government, and directives of the secretary general of the party. They will also be vigilant to assure the conditions necessary for the success of the development plan.

Composition

Article 8. The coordinating councils of the commune and governorate, as well as their bureaus, will be established in accordance with the provisions of Articles 77, 78, 79, and 80 of the internal rules of the party.

Article 9. The communal coordinating council may, if need be, expand its meetings in order to include the coordinators of the party cells in the large economic, social and cultural units. These units will be identified later by an organic instruction.

Article 10. The coordinating council bureau is the permanent structure for following and overseeing the application of the decisions contemplated in Article 7.

Powers

Article 11. The coordinating councils of the commune and the governorate will watch over the execution of national and local development plans.

Article 12. The coordinating councils will watch over the orientation of the various economic activities in the commune and the governorate.

To this end:

--They will provide conditions likely to improve productivity and the profitability of the various sectors.

--They will study and follow up on the concerns of the citizens and bring them to the attention of the political directorate.

--They will work to rapidly resolve the problems posed.

--They will provide security and peace for the citizens.

--They will mobilize all sectors to achieve the objectives of the agrarian revolution in its various dimensions and will work toward the accomplishment of the building of socialist villages.

--They will watch over the promotion and diffusion of the national culture as defined by the National Charter.

--In the framework of the application of the social policy of the country, they will watch over the establishment of health conditions for the citizens while improving them, as well as raising the standard of living of the masses.

Article 13. The coordinating councils have as their task to inspire, to monitor, and to provide a follow-up for the great achievements of a national character linked to the political, social, economic, and cultural life of the country.

Article 14. The coordinating councils must put at the disposal of the masses all means for guaranteeing the success of national activities.

Article 15. The coordinating councils may, in accordance with the provisions of Article 76 of the internal rules of the party, present suggestions to the authorities concerned for the study of new projects if the need arises.

Article 16. The coordinating councils will watch over, by means of the institutions concerned:

- Defense of the gains of the revolution, application of the National Charter and the law,
- Motivation of the local organs with a view to greater efficiency,
- Action of a nature to insure that the services of the governorate plan and execute their tasks in a rational way,
- Preservation of the wealth of the state,
- The struggle against social evils.

Article 17. The coordinating councils may undertake emergency investigations in the event of negative developments resulting from political, economic, cultural, and social activities, both at the commune and the governorate level, through the bodies concerned.

Article 18. The coordinating councils will inform the authorities concerned whenever there is insubordination, negligence, poor administration, misappropriation, abuse of power, waste, corruption, deviation, red tape, or any other behavior which impedes the execution of the tasks of national construction, whenever the circumstances call for measures beyond their scope.

Article 19. The coordinating councils of the communes and governorates will:

- Coordinate and guide the activities conducted by the people's councils in the communes and governorates;
- Make an annual evaluation of the programs of activities of the people's councils of the communes and governorates in order to insure that projects enacted correspond to the needs of the masses;
- Assess the overall activities of these councils and take any measures called for by the situation.

Article 20. The coordinating councils at the commune and governorate levels must insure that the prerogatives of the local people's councils are respected in accordance with the laws and the statutes in force.

Article 21. The bureaus of the coordinating councils exercise the function of political oversight with respect to all levels of administration, enterprises, and various other bodies. They also participate in encouraging and overseeing the elected people's councils.

Article 22. The bureau of the governorate coordinating council watches over the effective carrying out of the activities of the communal coordinating councils and takes any measures necessary for their proper performance.

Operating Rules

Article 23. The coordinating council must meet at least once every 2 months, and at the request of one of the members of the coordinating bureau as necessary.

Article 24. The secretary of the Kasma chairs the meetings of the communal coordinating council, and meetings of the governorate coordinating council are chaired by the secretary of the Mouhafadha.

Article 25. The presence of the members of the council is obligatory, and no proxies are permitted.

Article 26. The president of the coordinating council makes the agenda available to all members 3 days before the holding of a regular meeting and submits it for adoption at the opening of each meeting.

Article 27. The bureau meets once every 2 weeks and as necessary in order to examine and resolve all questions submitted to it.

Article 28. Reports on the work of the communal coordinating council are transmitted to the governorate coordinating council within 10 days following the close of the session.

Reports regarding the work of the governorate coordinating council are transmitted to the General Organization Commission and to the Ministry of the Interior within 10 days following the close of the session.

Article 29. The bureau of the coordinating council may create technical committees on a temporary basis for the study of questions beyond its competence to prepare for decisions that must be adopted.

These committees are chaired by members of the coordinating council designated by the president.

Article 30. The president of the coordinating council determines the composition of the above-mentioned temporary technical committees and defines their powers and the term of their work, in concertation with members of the bureau of the coordinating council.

Article 31. The work of the technical committee is complete after the presentation of its final report to the coordinating council bureau. Its view on the problems examined have the status of recommendations only.

Article 32. The decisions of the coordinating council enter into force upon their adoption. Each member of the coordinating council is responsible for the execution of the decisions adopted, within the scope of his own areas of responsibility. They must each report periodically to the council.

Article 33. The central organs of the party and the state are linked to the coordinating council at the governorate level through their respective representatives on the bureau of the coordinating council.

At the local level the officials of the various economic, social, and cultural sectors are in touch with the governorate coordinating council through the chain of command.

Article 34. The secretary general of the party may issue special instructions elaborating on this in accordance with the National Charter, the constitution, the statutes, and the internal rules of the party.

Article 35. The organs of the party and the state are both charged with responsibility for execution of the present decision.

Resolution on Modalities of Implementation of Article 120 of the Party Bylaws

The Central Committee,

- Given the provisions of the National Charter,
- Given Article 10, paragraph 6 of the party bylaws,
- Given Article 120 of the bylaws of the FLN Party, particularly paragraph 2,

Resolves:

Article 1. Paragraph 2 of Article 120 of the party bylaws will go into effect starting 1 January 1981 in all the mass organizations, in accordance with the provisions of the following articles:

Article 2. The present resolution involves the following elected leaderships:

1. At the national level:

- The national councils of the mass organizations;
- The Executive Committee (UGTA) [General Union of Algerian Workers];
- The executive committees of the national federations;
- The secretariats of the national syndicates.

2. At the governorate level:

- The executive committees or comparable authorities.

3. At the daïra level:

- The executive secretariats, the bureaux of Nahia or comparable authorities.

4. At the communal level:

In addition to the provisions of the bylaws of each of the mass organizations,

- The secretary general of the communal union or his equivalent;
- The president of the assembly of workers in the large economic, social, and cultural units.

Article 3. The present decision will enter into force starting on 1 January 1981, for the national secretariats and the federation secretariats immediately, and, insofar as the other authorities are concerned, in tandem with the regular reelection of leaders in all mass organizations.

Article 4. The general organization commission is responsible for implementing the present decision and doing what is necessary for extending it to all other authorities at the base level.

Organic Recommendation

Within the framework of the mobilization of the strength of the nation and with a view to achieving the great tasks of the socialist revolution and carrying out the 5-year plan, and realizing the important role played by the occupational unions both internally and externally,

The Central Committee recommends to the general organization commission of the party:

1. Strengthening the occupational unions within their organic cadre,
2. Insuring the emergence of militant and committed leadership in accordance with the provisions of Article 120 of the party bylaws.

ENERGY

- Considering the guidelines of the National Charter in regard to economic and social development, the foundation of the construction of a socialist society,
- Considering the resolutions of the fourth congress and the special congress of the party and the decisions of the Central Committee on development,
- Considering the role played by the energy sector in meeting development objectives and in the economic life of the country,
- Considering the critical contribution of hydrocarbon exports, with their clear preeminence in energy sector activities, to the financing of development plans,
- Considering that the recovery of the national wealth and the development of hydrocarbons that has been undertaken form a part of the struggle being waged by the peoples of the Third World for their economic liberation and for the establishment of a new international economic order,
- Considering that the major gains should not mask the negative aspects and the sectoral imbalances which lead to excessive reliance on external resources in place of greater internal effort and balanced development,
- Considering the dangers posed to the future of the country by the persistence of the tendency toward unbalanced economic growth based essentially on the dynamics of hydrocarbon exports, which are a nonrenewable resource,

--Considering that the most solid assurance of the country's development lies in a permanent mobilization of the workers to improve the other sectors and thereby come to have a more diversified and integrated economic activity and thus an economy which is less vulnerable in its relations with the outside world,
--Considering the necessity of enriching and diversifying our energy patrimony, which is presently dominated by hydrocarbons, by means of developing and mastering other energy sources,

I. Concerning Long-Term Energy Policy

The Central Committee,

1. Underlines the necessity of defining a long-term national energy policy taking into account the new internal and external data which result principally:

--From taking stock and drawing the lessons from a long period of the country's experience in managing this energy sector,
--From the positive and negative aspects of the process of intense and committed development,
--From the present expansion of internal energy consumption, up to now a marginal factor in the utilization of our resources, but one which promises to grow in the future,
--From the developments in the past and the disorders at present in the world energy economy, international trade, and in a more general way the international political context in which the struggle for a more fair price for our exports unfolds and will be played out.

2. Resolves to establish a long-term plan for developing and utilizing energy based on the following guiding principles:

- A. The absolute necessity of assuring the energy future of the country, by preserving "strategic reserves" of hydrocarbons but also by engaging quickly in a program of diversification of our energy patrimony through the mastery and development of other energy sources;
- B. Accord clear priority, in the allocation of energy resources, to the satisfaction of the growing needs of internal consumption of energy and to the development of the country;
- C. Design a model of internal energy consumption;
- D. Fix the volume of energy exports for the medium and long term;
- E. Elaborate a structure of hydrocarbon products to be exported, based particularly on refined products and petrochemicals;
- F. Decree a program of action intended to improve the conservation, reorganization, and enrichment of our energy patrimony;
- G. Organize the mobilization of human and material resources for the fulfillment of this plan of development and utilization of energy;
- H. Provide the institutional setting of motivation, periodic adaptation, coordination, and monitoring of execution of the national energy policy.

II. Regarding Priority Placed on Satisfaction of Internal Energy Consumption Needs

The Central Committee,

Calls for the designing of a model of internal energy consumption, which takes into account the following necessities:

- A. Satisfactory coverage of the consumption needs of the populace;
- B. Optimal utilization of the different sources of energy;
- C. Systematic struggle against all forms of energy waste in industrial or individual consumption;
- D. Starting a coherent and thorough program of production and distribution of energy as well as petrochemical products, taking into account the investments already made or projected in the 5-year plan, in such a way that it provides especially for:
 - Significant and expeditious growth of storage, transport, and distribution capacities in these strategic products, in accordance with strict and rational standards for assured supply,
 - Development of appropriate means of satisfying LPG needs,
 - Proper and routine satisfaction of needs for fertilizers and crop care chemicals on agricultural holdings;
- E. Guaranteed security of energy and petrochemical installations and infrastructure;
- F. Elaboration of a price system to facilitate the implementation of this consumption model.

III. Concerning Exports

The Central Committee,

- 1. Calls for the fixing of a volume of exports for the future in the medium and long term, to be periodically revised, in accordance with the following guidelines:
 - A. Giving priority to the establishment of strategic reserves and the satisfaction of internal consumption and development needs,
 - B. Taking into consideration the periodic assessments of the level of recoverable reserves,
 - C. Adjustment of this volume and of the structure of products for export to the price levels on the external market and to the predicted changes of those prices,
 - D. Meeting the levels required by internal users and the volume to be exported, by rational exploitation of deposits and optimal recovery of liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons;
- 2. Calls for a commitment to actions aimed at diversifying the markets for our exports to the greatest extent possible;
- 3. Recalls the resolutions of its second session concerning the readjustment of the price of exported natural gas;
- 4. Insists on the necessity of raising the price of exported natural gas, taking into account its quality as a noble, nonrenewable energy product and the cost of producing and converting it;

5. Calls for the resolute and determined pursuit of committed action aimed at higher valorization of exported natural gas;
6. Renews its firm determination to persevere in the struggle our country has undertaken for the total recovery of its mineral resources, the establishment of prices for exported raw materials and energy resources, and mastery of the processes leading to better valorization of its natural wealth;
7. Requests the pursuit of reinforcing coordination and dialog with the other producing-exporting countries with an eye toward equitably valorizing exported natural gas.
8. Reaffirms our country's support for the common struggle to improve the terms of sale of products and materials exported by developing countries;
9. Renews its full solidarity and commitment alongside the developing countries in the battle for establishment of a new international economic order.

IV. Concerning Management of the Energy Patrimony

The Central Committee,

1. Recommends that all requisite measures be taken, in light of the highly strategic character of the objectives set before the energy sector, to assure /optimal management of our hydrocarbon energy patrimony/;
2. Calls for the strengthening of this management to be fully factored into the restructuring of enterprises and the investment policy;
3. Calls for improvement in the yield of present deposits, within the bounds of rational utilization standards for these mineral resources;
4. Calls for intensified efforts at exploration and gradually expanding the scope of such efforts to all areas showing potential as well as to other energy sources;
5. Underlines the necessity of achieving these objectives, above all by better mobilization and organization of the country's own resources;
6. Recalls that international cooperation in this field must be organized in full conformity with the preservation of the legitimate interests of the country with respect to its natural wealth and must also have as an objective the strengthening of national exploration capability;
7. Calls for development and improvement of our research and exploration capabilities, with the object of becoming able to take charge of that effort and to capably provide supervision and direction to the foreign companies;
8. Calls for embarking on a dynamic policy of diversification of our energy patrimony and well-planned implementation of it;
9. Calls for elaboration of this policy along the following general lines:

- A. Watch over the strengthening of our capacity to master the associated technologies,
- B. Watch over the strengthening of the nation's scientific base with a view toward creation of the human and material environment for technological independence,
- C. Insure that the national economy works to the maximum extent possible for promotion and integration of its energy resources,
- D. Survey the available and utilizable energy resources,
- E. Strengthen the national capacity for assessment and interpretation of data on /solar, wind, and geothermal energy resources/,
- F. Create a data bank bringing together all the information concerning Algerian sub strata,
- G. Develop mining research in the fields of coal and /nuclear/ raw materials,
- H. Launch development studies on wind and geothermal energy,
- I. Pay particular attention to the promotion and development of solar energy, by reason of the scope of the nation's potential and the possibilities of participation by other sectors of the national economy,
- J. Orchestrate intersectoral coordination to come up with the decisions, the elaboration, and the execution of a program for producing and utilizing nuclear energy, with the firm determination to integrate vertically all activities that contribute to it.

V. Concerning Mobilization of Human and Material Resources

The Central Committee,

- 1. Calls for the establishment of a policy for the training, promotion, and rational utilization of cadres and skilled manpower available in this sector;
- 2. Calls for better deployment of skilled workers through restructuring socialist enterprises, in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations of the party in the matter;
- 3. Calls for a reduction in foreign technical assistance in a systematic way, taking into account the larger interests of the country;
- 4. Calls for greater efficiency in the investments already made or programmed; additional efforts at organization should be made to reach better economic and financial profitability for this equipment, which is often costly and of high technological value, in all the stages of hydrocarbon exploitation;
- 5. Calls for particular attention to be paid to organizing the employment of skilled manpower at all stages of production and technological expertise, particularly in order to satisfy engineering and maintenance needs;
- 6. Calls for an intensification and widening of the effort to train specialists and technicians at all levels, in order to consolidate and enrich the energy patrimony of the country.

VI. Concerning Creation of an Advanced Energy Institution

The Central Committee,

1. Calls for a strengthening the country's energy policy in both its degree of elaboration and in the rigor of its execution;
2. Calls for taking into consideration the three basic necessities for an effective national energy policy, namely:
 - A. The national medium- and long-term energy policy must be /periodically brought to light/.
 - B. For its elaboration with respect to the timing of its execution, the national energy policy requires /constant/ coordination between the national bodies involved in diverse responsibilities: scientific, economic, technical, diplomatic, safety and defense,
 - C. The particularly significant impact of any changes in the energy sector on the whole economic life of the country calls for /organized concertation/ to be periodically and regularly effected at a high level of political authority.

In consequence, the Central Committee resolves on the creation of an /advanced energy institution/ to be responsible for the needs of the energy policy in the short, medium, and long term and which is heavily involved in the strategy for development, security, and national sovereignty.

HEALTH

Considering that the socialist policy of the country makes health a fundamental right of the citizen, a right consecrated by the National Charter, the constitution, and the resolutions of the fourth congress and the special congress of the National Liberation Front Party,

Considering that the establishment of free medical care is intended to make a reality of this right by "protection, preservation, and improvement of the health of all the population" as stipulated in the National Charter,

Considering that in Article 67, the constitution proclaims that "all citizens have the right to protection of their health; this right is guaranteed by a general and cost-free health service, and extension of preventive medicine, the constant improvement of living and working conditions, as well as the promotion of physical education, sports, and leisure,

Considering that the fourth congress of the National Liberation Front has underlined the urgency of finding a solution to social problems, particularly with respect to health, and has recommended in its resolutions that "all measures capable of ameliorating the health situation in the country be taken rapidly, through putting into operation an integrated health program, which necessarily implies the mobilization of all human, financial, and organizational resources in order to make free medical care a reality throughout the entire territory of the nation,

General Principles

Considering that the special congress of the party reaffirmed that free medical care is an irreversible choice and constituting the basis of the social policy

guaranteeing to the entire population the right to the real and democratic benefits of treatment, by virtue of the primary role played by the public sector, Considering that health is one of the fundamental needs of man and that consequently the preservation and restoration of the physical, mental, and moral integrity of the individual constitutes one of the basic objectives of the social policy of the country,

Considering that protection of health is one of the conditions for progress and the flourishing of the individual and the community, and contributes decisively to raising the level of life of the people,

Considering that the aim of the efforts of the state is to produce a citizen healthy in body and mind, working in security and well-being, productive and aware of his responsibilities toward himself, his family, and the nation,

Considering that a healthy citizenry is a basic condition for the economic, social and cultural development of the country, and development in turn contributes decisively to the improvement of the health of the population,

Considering the efforts made by the state to raise the level of health in the country, expressed particularly by the gradual growth in the health budget, the increase in the number of citizens benefitting from primary care in public facilities, the growing number of light units [unites legeres] installed in the interior of the country, the quantitative progress made in the training of doctors, the increase in the consumption and importation of medicines,

Considering that despite these efforts and these accomplishments, significant inadequacies have shown up in the health field, and the results achieved have not measured up to the legitimate hopes and basic needs of the population,

Considering that this state of affairs is determined by the quantitative and qualitative inadequacy of infrastructure and health personnel, their unequal distribution throughout the national territory, as well as by the failure to capitalize on existing potential and the lack of equipment in hospital structures built under previous plans,

Considering that this situation is also the result of deficiencies in the organization of health services, management, and maintenance, as well as lack of coordination between the various health service structures,

Considering that while all evidence shows that medical care is the central element in health organization, this by no means discounts the role of other socioeconomic sectors whose contribution is critical for the improvement of health conditions in the country,

Considering that the value of a health system derives not only from the quality of the care provided, but also especially from its ability to preserve the health of the citizens by freeing them from illness and environmental health hazards and by providing them with sociocultural conditions conducive to their well-being and flourishing,

Considering that certain factors, notably the lack of potable water, the absence of salubrious housing, deterioration of the hygienic environment, and nutritional imbalance, are major obstacles to raising the level of health of the country, which remains a subject of concern, as shown by the high infant mortality rate,

Considering that the great demographic growth, the rural exodus, and new afflictions related to the process of industrialization are contributing to the deterioration of the country's health level,

Considering that the special congress recommends achieving complementarity and consistency in the diverse activities of the health structures within the framework of an integrated and unified health system,

The Central Committee resolves:

- To reorganize the national health system in order to take in hand in a unified, coherent, and integrated way, all the country's health problems and to respond effectively to the essential and urgent needs of the people.
- To improve the health planning process by fitting it into the general development plan of the country, thereby necessitating rigorous coordination of all activities that contribute to it.
- To take all measures so that the people, wherever they reside, may receive the effective benefit of all curative and preventive services under satisfactory conditions in administratively responsible structures judiciously distributed throughout the national territory, in accordance with the general plan for the country's development.
- To make a special priority effort, in the context of the 5-year plan, to improve primary care and bring it to the citizen, to correct the disparities which currently exist between the different regions of the country and between the towns and the rural areas.
- To elaborate and put into operation a policy oriented toward improvement of the living conditions of families and collectives (housing, potable water, physical education and sports training, public hygiene, and leisure).
- To make effective provisions for the handicapped, retarded children, and the elderly.
- To elaborate and put into operation a policy on hygiene, prevention, and health education for the masses which will be one of the major focuses of national health policy, particularly through the improvement of mass health education, maternal and infant protection, school health, worker protection, environmental clean-up, tracking down diseases, and the struggle against contagious disease.
- With this end in mind, to improve the public sector and create all the conditions necessary to enable that sector to fully accomplish its mission as the principal instrument for the realization of the health objectives of the country, particularly through the creation of the appropriate infrastructure and through the well-planned training of qualified health personnel enjoying suitable working and living conditions.
- To promote meaningful participation by the masses in planning and to set up the necessary structures so that communities can effectively assume responsibility for their health.
- To continually adapt health training to scientific progress and to the needs of society and to take all necessary steps to facilitate the acquisition of new knowledge and techniques, while taking care to promote and develop technologies which are compatible with our system and our health objectives.
- To encourage health research, favoring that seeking to satisfy health needs and to improve health care systems and the living and medical conditions of the entire population.

Organization and Infrastructure

Considering the necessity of making health care accessible and available to the patient on the spot, considering that the light units set up by the health centers and the polyclinics should be judiciously distributed so as to correct the presently existing imbalance between the regions, on the one hand, and the urban and rural areas on the other,

Considering the positive role which should be played by the medical-social centers of the parapublic sector in providing assistance to workers and their families, which should make a substantial contribution to the public sector,

Considering the necessity to pay particular attention to the disadvantaged and isolated portions of the populace, particularly in the south and the mountains,

Considering that optimization of the hospital structures is a major objective, especially through recasting the organization and administration, on the one hand, and through the growth and improvement of the technical service capacity, on the other,

Considering the present excessive saturation of hospital institutions resulting from the inadequacies noted in terms of light structures and in the distribution of primary care in these structures,

Considering the popular misuse of medicines, and the lack of discipline resulting from the lack of health education,

Considering that one of the major health problems is the absence of coordination between the different bodies and institutions concerned,

Considering that health services should be organized on the basis of the principle of decentralization,

The Central Committee:

- Insists on the necessity of persevering in the reorganization of health services, in the effort to develop an effective and complete system of health care, integrating the activities of care and prevention.

- Recommends establishment of a national health services blueprint on the basis of scientifically defined criteria, keeping in mind the necessity of correcting disparities between the regions and between urban and rural areas.

- Insists on the priority to be accorded the primary health care dispensed through the basic health network by the creation of health centers, polyclinics, and other light units.

- Insists that all means be mobilized to optimize existing hospital structures.

- Recommends putting into operation a health care system open to the community and with a structured chain of command, particularly through the improvement of sectorization.

- Calls for taking all necessary measures to complete projects presently under way and to complete within the time allotted those inscribed in the 5-year plan.

- Calls for taking all necessary measures to insure the preservation of the nation's health patrimony and to see to its continual maintenance.

- Calls for taking all necessary measures to specify the respective authority and missions of the organs and institutions concerned with health problems.

- Calls for taking all necessary measures to make decentralization effective and efficient.

- Calls for insuring the strengthening of discipline, security, and respect for authority within the health services.

Health Centers and Polyclinics

The Central Committee urges:

- That a health subsector be created, whenever the need appears at the commune or urban level, bringing together the polyclinic--as the primary center for organization and distribution of health care--and the health centers of the corresponding geographic area.

--That the health centers, representing the first level of care, be designed to serve a given population by offering all needed care and by providing the services of prevention--particularly with regard to maternal and infant protection--hygiene and school health.

--That the polyclinic, the central element of the health infrastructure and the interface between the hospital establishments and the other health services, on the one hand provide routine and specialized ambulatory care, emergency child deliveries and, on the other hand, coordination, motivation, and monitoring of health activities in the subsector.

--That sufficient quantities of adequate premises be created where needed, as quickly as possible, by making use of rapid construction techniques in order to improve working conditions in existing CHU's as well as in paramedical education establishments.

--That lying-in hospitals be opened, particularly in the rural areas, which will encourage deliveries in a medically attended environment and will contribute to the protection of mother and child.

--That priority be given to the basic health units, health centers and polyclinics, with respect to posting of Algerian personnel, making sure to create the best living and working conditions indispensable to the accomplishment of their tasks.

--That adequate staffing be provided, particularly for the health centers and polyclinics, so that they can be open to the public all day and to provide, progressively, night guards, in order to make health services fully available at all levels.

--That the various units in the health sector be given means of communications and transport as well as support infrastructure to prevent patients from being subjected to long travel and to reduce waiting time.

Hospital Establishments

--Urges the optimization of existing health structures.

--Urges the immediate creation of establishments specializing in psychiatry, making particularly sure of their humanization, and urges that their location take into account the regionalization of care and training needs.

--Urges the creation of other specialized establishments (cancerology, pediatrics, etc) as well as diagnostic centers and a national center for severe burns.

Health Service in the Parapublic Sector

--Recommends that the health units managed by national enterprises and the social security organizations be integrated into the national health system and that their activities be integrated with those of the public sector.

--Recommends that every enterprise, in the presentation of its annual budget, set out specific provisions for the protection of the work environment.

--Recommends acceleration of the completion of health projects financed by the social security organizations, making sure to insert them in the national plan for development of health services.

--Encourages development of all health structures in the parapublic sector, which fills important gaps in the distribution of care, within the framework of free medical care.

Equipment and Medicine

Equipment:

Considering that the efficiency of a hospital cannot be assessed in terms of the number of beds but on the basis of the operational performance of each bed which is directly linked to the size and quality of the technical capacity of the hospital,

Noting that the technical equipment is to a great extent nonoperational because of overutilization, aging, and the inadequacy or nonexistence of repair and maintenance services,

Underlining the necessity of implementing a policy of standardization of medical equipment and rationalization of its distribution and utilization,

Insisting on the necessity of promoting national production focused on priority needs,

Concerned by the insufficiency of means of communication, liaison, emergency operations, and transport, and believing that these means are indispensable to the operation of health activities, particularly to compensate for the weakness of the health infrastructure,

The Central Committee recommends:

--That all units in the national health network, particularly the basic units, be given the equipment indispensable to their effective operation.

--That each hospital be endowed with technical infrastructure adequate to enable it to play the essential role assigned to it.

--That appropriate repairs and maintenance be provided, and that measures be taken to optimize equipment.

--That appropriate structures be created for the training of technicians qualified in maintenance and the creation of decentralized units for repair and maintenance of equipment.

--That the necessary measures be taken to promote national production oriented to priority needs.

--That all health units be provided with means of communication and liaison.

Medicine:

Considering that medicine occupies a strategic position in the implementation of the national health policy,

Recalling the resolutions of the National Liberation Front congress relative to the provision and the distribution of medicine as well as to the promotion of a national pharmaceutical industry,

Considering the rapid growth in the volume of imports and the cost of pharmaceutical products which constitute a major portion of health expenditures,

The Central Committee recommends:

--Accelerating the process of reorganization of the PCA in order to improve administrative handling of pharmaceutical products and to establish an adequate network of storage and distribution of medicines and essential vaccines with a view to responding as well as possible to the needs of the entire population and to avoid shortages.

- Taking practical measures to struggle against waste and overconsumption, particularly by making the consumer, the distributor, and the prescribing agent accountable.
- Continuing the development of a scientifically elaborated nomenclature, with the collaboration of all categories of health practitioners, which particularly takes into account the pathology of the country and the progress made in the field of pharmacology, and improving the information level of the medical corps.
- Making use of the country's potential in the field of medicinal herbs and substances.
- Strengthening teaching in therapeutics and pharmacology in the training cycle of health personnel, particularly regarding doctors, pharmacists, and dental surgeons.
- Taking all necessary measures to complete as soon as possible the proposed pharmaceutical units called for in the 5-year plan and to this end intensifying the training of specialized personnel, particularly industrial pharmacists.
- Insuring the complementarity of the pharmaceutical, chemical, and petrochemical industries.
- Taking all measures necessary to develop Galenic preparation in hospitals, taking particular care to provide a regular supply of basic products.
- Continuing and developing the policy of diversification regarding imported medicines.

Health Personnel and Training

Personnel:

Considering that the balanced development of health personnel, both in number and quality, is the essential element that assures the access of everyone to quality health care and the success of a national health policy,
 Recalling the resolutions of the National Liberation Front Party congress recommending that adequate measures be taken to improve working, living, training, and job improvement conditions as well as the system of remuneration and pensions for health personnel,
 Considering the necessity of strengthening the public sector by making it more attractive,
 Considering the absence or the incompleteness of the formal status of certain categories of health personnel,
 Considering the inadequacy of existing regulations concerning practitioners working on a part-time basis,

The Central Committee recommends for medical personnel:

- The immediate preparation of regulations for doctors, pharmacists, and dental surgeons, comparable to that covering the public sector, defining the rights and obligations of the various categories of this corps, particularly by setting forth conditions of remuneration and pension and the modalities of career promotion and advancement.
- Recommends that the government take measures to make maximum use of the human potential in the public sector, taking care to respect full-time demands.
- Reexamining wage problems, taking into account the general labor statute, in such a way that remuneration, presently composed in large part of benefits, will become a real wage on the basis of which retirement will be calculated, taking into account the years of previous activity.

- Taking measures to help this corps particularly with housing and transportation.
 - Taking special measures, both with respect to remuneration and to living conditions, to benefit practitioners posted to isolated or desolate areas.
 - Taking measures aimed at rapidly improving working conditions, taking into account the predominance of women in this occupation.
 - Considering the possibility of awarding bonuses for wage supplements depending on the work accomplished and results obtained on the basis of criteria and modalities to be defined.
 - Assuring the effective and efficacious participation of part-time practitioners in the public sector and granting them access to the various health structures on the basis of qualifications set forth in precise regulations to be integrated into the national public health system.
 - Updating the schedule of fees for the various medical services and insuring their implementation.
- Varying the civil service workweek according to the work location, with the aim of favoring desolate and isolated areas.
- Taking measures likely to favor medical and paramedical personnel working abroad.
 - Making preparations for the replacement of foreign technical assistance which makes a substantial contribution to the solution of health problems, gradually replacing the advisers with Algerian practitioners in accordance with their qualifications, so that in the future assistance becomes more selective and oriented toward the recruitment of specialists.

The Medical Corps

- Giving high priority to upgrading the paramedical profession whose role is decisive in the health system and taking into account its specific heavy constraints, particularly through improvement of wages and living conditions.
- Taking measures aimed at rapidly improving working conditions, taking into account the increasing predominance of women in the profession.

Administrative and Technical Personnel

- Raising the level and qualifications of health administration cadres, and improving working conditions and remuneration, particularly for agents of the administrative and technical services.
- Giving suitable remuneration to maintenance personnel, who represent a corps that is essential for the functioning of health services, good utilization of equipment, and its optimization, and providing adequate living and working conditions for them.

Training of Health Personnel

Considering that the solution to the problems which are posed in the health field lie in large part in the training of health personnel,
 Considering that implementation of medical education reform has made possible the training of a great number of doctors and dental surgeons,
 Considering the quantitative and qualitative inadequacy of sites for theoretical and practical training,
 Considering the need for a policy of decentralization, the extremely long lead-times for making the planned CHU's operational, the need to increase training capacity in the shortest time possible, the possibility of achieving this objective in the regional hospital structures presently existing in towns reserved for the creation of scheduled CHU's,

Considering that selection for a hospital-university career should be made on a scientific basis and on the basis of creative competition in order to upgrade the quality of training,

Considering the insufficient number of pharmacy students, which jeopardizes the correct administration of medicines in terms of distribution and the development of the pharmaceutical industry,

Considering that paramedical training does not respond either in quantity or quality to the substantial needs of the country, despite the considerable efforts undertaken,

Considering that the training of personnel in maintenance and administrative management is almost nonexistent,

Considering the difficulties confronted by medical and paramedical students,

Considering the necessity of testing the knowledge of all personnel, whatever their qualifications or place of work,

The Central Committee recommends:

--Putting into operation a planning policy in the field of health personnel training, with a view to reducing the present deficit, correcting the existing imbalance between the different categories, and meeting the future needs of the country.

--Promoting teaching and orienting health sciences curricula by adapting them to developments in the health conditions of the population and in science.

--Providing greater coordination between the institutions responsible for training and the health establishments, and studying the organization of a coherent system of health personnel training.

Medical Training

--Adapting medical training to the real problems of the country, taking into account on the one hand the needs and available resources, and on the other hand, scientific and technical progress in modern medicine, aiming for establishment of homogenous and complementary teams.

--Quickly drawing the lessons from the reform of medical studies and reviewing programs in teaching and medical training, in terms of the holistic medicine concept, integrating care and prevention and raising the scientific and technical level of practitioners.

--Stimulating of educators in order to have suitable and sufficient training personnel.

--Improving scientific research in the health field and increasing international exchanges in the field of training and research.

--Putting into effect without delay a true reform of pharmaceutical studies aimed at upgrading and optimizing the pharmaceutical profession.

--Developing the teaching of dental surgery so that it is more oriented to the needs of the community and gives special emphasis to prevention.

--Creating, without delay, university specialist positions in the existing regional hospital structures in towns scheduled to receive the planned CHU's.

--Acquiring, within the framework of rigorous planning, the complementary specialists needed to supplement the basic specialists in order to facilitate full utilization of existing or planned hospital-university structures.

--Posting of a national list of hospital-university positions to be filled by order of merit of the applicants for the position.

- The taking of urgent measures to create for the CHU's light lodging and food infrastructures and providing the necessary transportation for the students.
- The taking of measures necessary to provide for wide diffusion of books and publications dealing with health.

Paramedical Training

- Intensifying training by strengthening the resource-base of units located at governorate headquarters and decentralizing the teaching in certain categories with respect to all health sectors, in order to limit migration.
- Giving priority to the training of teachers and insuring that the general level of training is raised.
- Establishing study programs corresponding to the various tasks that the personnel will be called upon to provide, and putting into operation a permanent system of continuous training, particularly for those who work in distant or isolated areas.
- Improving the training of personnel responsible for monitoring environmental hygiene, on the one hand, and the expansion of primary prevention and treatment activity in the light units, on the other.

Training of Administrative Personnel

- Putting into operation rapidly a health administration training policy by creating a permanent body to handle this.
- Insuring that the level of training corresponds to the duties attached to administration of a sector with responsibilities for the health of the population.
- Upgrading the training level of the administrative personnel already in the field.

Training in the National Language

- Providing in a rational manner the progressive utilization of the national language in the training of health personnel.
- Providing for the diffusion of books, manuals, and publications in the health field published in the Arabic language.

Action: Medical-Social and Prevention

- Demography, maternal and infant protection, spacing of births.
- Environment and environmental hygiene.
- The struggle against contagious disease.
- The struggle against noncontagious disease.
- The struggle against the use of tobacco.
- Protection of the child and school hygiene.
- Workers' health and on-the-job medical care.
- Social protection of the mujahidin.
- The struggle against accidents.
- Catastrophes and natural calamities.
- The handicapped, retarded children, the elderly.

With respect to maternal and infant protection and a number of other subjects, the Central Committee in its resolution makes the following recommendations:

Considering that demographic growth in our country is reaching an annual rate of 3.2 percent, one of the highest in the world, and that at such a pace Algeria will double in population by the year 2000, going from 19 million to 36 million,
Considering the consequences to the health of mother and child,
Considering the necessity of designing a demographic policy based on religious principles and taking into account moral and individual considerations,
Considering that the nation's socioeconomic balance requires a demographic balance based on free choice,

The Central Committee recommends:

- Embarking on a vast program of information and education.
- Elaborating regulations permitting the implementation of the pertinent measures on the side of health.
- Committing the human material and financial resources necessary to start up a national program of spacing out births.
- Improving maternal and infant protection, which should constitute one of the major focuses of prevention policy.
- Creating a national body for protection of mother and infant.

Environment and Environmental Hygiene

Considering that human health is closely linked to the quality of the environment in all aspects,
Considering that control over and improvement of the environment in all its components is a factor for promoting physical, moral, and social health in the populace,
Considering that the deterioration of public hygiene throughout the entire country is becoming a major concern,
Considering that this state of affairs requires urgent measures to check this process of deterioration, which could jeopardize the efforts deployed in the field of health,

The Central Committee recommends:

- The organization of information activities and continuing education by utilizing audiovisual means and all community institutions.
- Provision of potable water for the population, which constitutes the fundamental prerequisite for any effective health policy.
- Treatment of used water in order to deal with the disturbing resurgence of infectious diseases originating in water, a principle cause of infant mortality.
- Removal and processing of household sewage wastes.
- The struggle against animal and insect disease vectors.
- Rigorous control of food and drink, particularly meats.
- The struggle against industrial pollution and pollution of air, water, and the soil.
- The gradual reduction of the housing crisis: salubrious housing for every family is one of the most important aspects of a successful health policy.
- Elaboration of a national hygiene code and the creation of hygiene councils at the various levels of the administrative institutions of the country (national, governorate, daïra, commune) by involving the people at the level of the political and administrative bodies of the country.

--Strengthening the corps of sanitation officials and including in the penal code infractions or crimes against public hygiene.

Struggle Against Contagious Diseases

Considering that contagious diseases are responsible for the high rates of mortality and morbidity, particularly among children,
Considering that improvement of living conditions and lifestyles and the clean-up of the environment, as well as individual and community sensitization, are decisive in stamping out these scourges,

The Central Committee urges:

- Pursuit, intensification, or putting into operation of plans to combat the most common contagious diseases.
- Intensification and popularization of vaccination programs.
- Putting into operation a program of health education specifically based on prevention of contagious diseases and calling upon all available resources for information and training, particularly in the schools.
- Strengthening of institutions responsible for the activities of prevention and surveillance of contagious diseases at the community, daïra, and governorate level, and the mobilization of the local communities to this end.

Struggle Against Noncontagious Diseases

Believing that mental illnesses, resulting from the war of liberation and from turmoil in social institutions, constitutes a major public health problem,
Considering the importance of the problems of oral hygiene and their repercussions, particularly on the child,
Considering the growing costs of treatment and readaptation in dentistry,
Considering the not negligible prevalence of other noncontagious diseases such as cancer, kidney failure, cardiovascular disease, asthma, and rheumatic diseases,
Noting the inadequacy or absence of health institutions specializing in these fields and the percentage of transfer of patients abroad,

The Central Committee recommends:

Mental Health

- In order to meet the needs, creating light, humanized, decentralized institutions in order to permit family contact.
- Decentralizing mental health activities by integrating them into general health, particularly at the level of basic care.

Oral Hygiene

- Elaborating and putting into operation continuing programs for prevention of tooth decay, particularly cavities, including the health education of the population and integrated into primary health care, particularly at the school level.
- Intensifying the appropriate training of specialized personnel by increasing training institutions.

Other Noncontagious Diseases

--Setting up urgently institutions specializing in diagnostics, treatment, and rehabilitation in areas such as cancer, asthma, surgical heart problems, rheumatic diseases, kidney failure...among others, in order to halt as soon as possible the resort to foreign medical care and to build the people's confidence in our health services.

Struggle Against the Use of Tobacco and Alcohol

Considering the alarming increase in the consumption of tobacco and alcohol, particularly among youth, and their incontestably harmful character, which plays a critical role in chronic respiratory problems, cancer, and cardiovascular disease,

The Central Committee recommends:

--Setting up continuing programs designed to combat and prevent the use of tobacco and alcohol, based on continuous educational activities and supported by all the deterrent measures necessary, particularly through laws and tax measures.

Protection of the Child, School Hygiene

Considering that nearly 50 percent of the population is less than 14 years old, Considering that thanks to universal education, school is becoming a propitious place for observation and surveillance of the physical and mental health of the child, particularly for detecting sight and hearing problems, psychological problems, for implementation of vaccination programs, and monitoring of oral hygiene,

Considering that at present barely 30 to 40 percent of schoolchildren are medically examined at school,

The Central Committee recommends:

--Systematic extension of school health care to all academic bodies throughout the national territory, including summer holiday centers, and making it one of the primary focuses of the health policy.

--Establishment of a "health card" for all children, in advance of extending it to all citizens, so that the progress of the child can be followed systematically.

--Establishment of health education in the schools.

--Promotion of school sports in order to improve the physical and mental balance of the student, under medical supervision.

Workers' Health and Medicine at Work

Recalling that the National Charter and the constitution guarantee the right to protection, safety, and hygiene at work,

Considering that workers are a major portion of the population subjected to special risks,

Considering that industrialization, mechanization of agriculture, and in a general way the introduction of new technologies have multiplied the risks of accident and occupational diseases linked to working conditions,

Recalling that work medicine is an integral part of public health,
Noting with concern that many groups in the job-active population, particularly agricultural workers, construction workers, and employees in small enterprises and administrative units do not benefit from any work medicine services,
Considering that the practice of physical education and sports as well as the organization of relaxation and leisure activities contributes to the preservation and improvement of workers' health,
Noting the present insufficiency in the number of people specializing in work medicine,

The Central Committee urges:

- That all measures be taken to provide workers the best living conditions, hygiene, and safety on the job.
- That the installation of health care units in all economic enterprises be made obligatory and facilitated, within the framework of an integrated health system, with the goal of providing for the physical and mental protection of the workers.
- That the practice of physical education and sports be promoted in economic units, by the workers and their families.
- That holiday centers, and relaxation and leisure centers be developed, for the benefit of the workers and their families, to maintain their physical and mental balance.
- That the training of personnel specializing in work medicine be intensified, turning to the most effective system likely to satisfy the needs of this vital development sector rapidly.

Health Protection for the Mujahidin

Considering the heroic role played by the mujahidin during the national liberation war,

- The Central Committee recommends that no effort be spared to provide for the protection of the physical and mental health of the mujahidin, paying particular attention to the severely disabled.
- Calls on the health services to give special priority to medical treatment.

Struggle Against Accidents

Concerned by the scope and gravity of individual and public health problems due to traffic accidents,
Considering the impact of household accidents, which are related to the new lifestyles and to rapid urbanization, and which most often harm children,

The Central Committee recommends:

- Strengthening road safety measures, stiffening the penalties for violating the traffic laws, increasing traffic surveillance, getting defective vehicles off the roads, keeping the roads maintained and keeping them well lighted.
- Elaboration and implementation of a household accident prevention program based on public information and sustained specific education.
- Working to set up, in conjunction with the civil protective services, a system providing for getting accident victims off the road and into competent hands.

Catastrophes and Natural Calamities

Considering the need to have a plan of operation ready at any moment for catastrophes and natural calamities,

The Central Committee recommends:

--Elaboration of a plan for emergency and rescue operations and the establishment of a permanent organization having both the human and material resources enabling it to be instantly operational anywhere in the territory.

Medical-Social Protection for the Handicapped, Retarded Children, and the Elderly

Considering the provisions of the National Charter regarding "state intervention on behalf of the physically and mentally handicapped, aimed at their rehabilitation and social reintegration through education and training adapted to their specific conditions, assistance of special importance for children",

Considering the right of the handicapped, retarded children, and the elderly both within the country and abroad to health protection, and underlining the fact that state and societal intervention on their behalf is a national obligation,

Considering that the resources that have been made available for the treatment, reeducation, schooling, and vocational placement of the handicapped are clearly inadequate,

Considering that the serious disruptions in our society's institutions have created problems unknown in our country within the framework of the traditional family,

Considering that in the past, the family took care of their elders, their children, and often even collateral relatives out of natural solidarity and the religious ethic,

Considering that abandoned children, the totally orphaned and the children of broken homes are often left to their own devices, and that among these one finds the largest number of juvenile delinquents,

Considering the large number of elderly persons who have no means of support, bereft of resources, unqualified for work, or individuals having only an inadequate pension barely allowing them to subsist,

The Central Committee believes:

--That the solution to this problem requires the effective commitment of all sectors concerned, and the implementation of a national intersectoral program which in particular includes sustained preventive activities.

--That the magnitude of the resources required for realization of a policy to protect groups of the population with special problems should imply unanimous participation of the national community.

It recommends:

--Development of special schools for the visually or hearing handicapped as well as appropriate vocational training centers.

--Taking measures for the social reintegration of the handicapped and inviting public administrative bodies to participate fully in them.

--Adding, as warranted, to the number of special schools for the mentally handicapped.

- Developing reeducation institutions and apparatuses for those with motor handicaps and providing them with all necessary facilities.
- Giving high priority to activities aimed at training medical and technical personnel needed to provide readaptation therapy.
- Developing centers for artificial aids and functional readaptation and providing them with sufficient personnel.
- Creating a body to study the problems of the handicapped and deal with them.
- Assumption of responsibility by the state for the social problems of retarded children and the elderly, so they can be guaranteed security and dignity.
- Creating institutions to take abandoned children and assume social, educational, and vocational responsibility for them.
- Efforts to integrate abandoned children into family households.
- Efforts toward a satisfactory solution to the problem of children bereft of family.
- Social reintegration of children who are wards of the state when they reach their majority, according particular attention to young girls.
- Creating homes for elderly persons with no family, or allocating decent pensions to elderly persons with no resources.

Means of Support: Management and Technical Institutions

Considering that the development of a socialist health policy requires the strengthening of the management system based on the principle of decentralization. Recalling that health is everyone's concern and considering that meaningful and organized participation by both health workers and the people in this field is essential to reaching the objectives laid down in the national health policy.

The Central Committee recommends:

- The application of the regulations on socialist management of enterprises to the health sector, taking into account the uniqueness of this sector.
- The elaboration of a health sector law establishing the general organization and delineating the prerogatives at each level.
- The creation of health councils in the commune, the daira, and the governorate, which will have the goal of implementing health action programs within the framework of the guidelines set forth by the National Health Council.
- The creation or strengthening of communal hygiene bureaus responsible for monitoring the healthfulness of the environment.
- The creation on the national level of laboratories responsible for regulation of medicines, food commodities, and the environment, in particular.
- Strengthening the national body charged with design, study, research, and retraining in health matters.

Health Legislation

The Central Committee recommends:

- In conjunction with the workers in the sectors concerned, reexamining the public health code and elaborating thorough regulations implementing the provisions of the National Charter, the constitution, the decisions of the party congress, and the general labor law.
- Elaborating legislation providing for protection and improvement of individual and environmental health.

--Accelerating adoption and application of regulations concerning occupational risks within the framework of the general labor law.

Health Research

Considering that the health system and health programs must be continually adapted to the pace of economic, social, and cultural development, as well as to scientific progress,

Considering that research should be focused essentially on the problems of the community and believing that it must effectively participate in the improvement of the quality of health benefits,

The Central Committee recommends:

--Strengthening, in both human and material resources, the various structures contributing to the promotion of biomedical research, particularly laboratories and other investigative units.

--Organization of health sciences research within the framework of the national scientific research body, in such a way as to facilitate high-priority work, animate the human scientific potential and encourage interdisciplinary and team efforts.

--Inclusion of the biological, social, and medical fields, as well as the organizational and pedagogical fields, in health research.

Financing

The Central Committee:

Considering that despite the efforts made by the state to provide the health services with budgets equal to the tasks they are given, the resources allotted to health still remain inadequate for reaching the assigned objectives,

Considering that development of free medical care combined with demographic growth and rising standards of living engender a growing demand for medical care, entailing an increase of health expenditures,

The Central Committee recommends:

--That the financial resources necessary for fulfillment of these health programs be made available, and to this end that consideration be given to study of the different modalities of financing capable of meeting these needs.

--That the local communities assume their responsibilities in health matters, in accordance with the provisions of the communal and governorate codes, and that the financial resources necessary to the tasks facing them in the fields of hygiene, sanitation, prevention, and health education be made available.

--That the problem of social protection be studied, and in this context that the matter of social security be examined.

9516

CSO: 4400

COUNTRY SHIFTING FROM OIL TO GAS PRODUCTION

London 8 DAYS in English 7 Feb 81 p 46

[Article by Martin Quinlan]

[Text]

AS AN oil-producing state, Bahrain is now well past its prime. Despite a full programme of reservoir pressure-maintenance, workovers and drilling for new prospects, production has declined steadily since 1970, when output averaged 76,000 b/d. But all is not gloom. The state's production of natural gas seems set to take off as oil flows dwindle, providing revenues from the export of gas liquids as well as fuel for new industries.

An oil producer since 1934 — pre-dating all of its larger neighbours in the southern part of the Gulf — Bahrain has investigated virtually every potentially oil-bearing structure on its onshore territory, making the chances of finding new fields very slim. But non-associated gas (gas contained in fields without significant amounts of crude oil) is still being discovered from deeper zones, and the signs are that it could prove at least as important as oil to the economy. One-fifth of gas output is still flared.

By 1979 Bahrain's crude oil production had fallen to an average of 49,220 b/d, while production of natural gas liquids had remained more constant at 2,124 b/d (volume equivalent). Gas flows, however, have risen steeply since 1976. The 94.3m cubic feet/day (cf/d) of associated gas produced in 1979 was some 34 per cent up on the 1976 figure, while output of non-associated gas has climbed almost as strongly, reaching 389.45m cf/d in 1979. Although increased gas production was matched by a similar growth in use, 19.3 per cent of production was flared off wastefully in 1979.

Much of this increased gas output has been needed for electricity generation, although a considerable volume is used to

fuel the secondary recovery work at the Awali oilfield. A significant advance is the completion of the majority state-owned Banagas company's natural gas liquids fractionator. Inaugurated at the end of 1979, this now takes about 100m cf/d of associated gas — almost the entire available output. This fractionated gas yields 80,000 tonnes a year of propane, 75,000 tonnes a year of butane and 125,000 tonnes a year of heavier cuts termed 'natural gasoline': a total of 280,000 tonnes a year of saleable natural gas liquids. The LPG (liquid petroleum gas) fractions — propane and butane — are sold on the export market, while the natural gasoline (a volume equivalent to 3,500 b/d) flows to the Bapco refinery at Sitra Island.

There are other benefits. 'Tail' waste, gas from the fractionator is piped to the ALBA (Aluminium Bahrain) smelter, replacing two-thirds of the volume of non-associated gas previously used as fuel. This can now be diverted elsewhere. After 1983, much of it will probably flow to the 1,000 tonnes/day (t/d) ammonia and 1,000 t/d methanol complex now being pushed forward by the Gulf Petrochemicals Industries Company. This is a joint venture between the governments of Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which are sharing the estimated \$400m cost. A reclaimed area off Sitra has been chosen for the plant.

Although the Bahrain government has announced its intention to nationalise fully its oil and gas industries, it seems in no hurry to do so, being apparently content with majority participation. The state was happy with a 60 per cent holding in Bapco's Sitra refinery, for which it put up \$100m of its own cash and arranged a two-year line of

credit, mainly from local banks, for the remaining \$300m needed.

The government's move into refining, which was made retrospective to July last year, was particularly well-timed. With Iran's Abadan refinery out of action as a result of the war with Iraq — and likely to remain so for some years — the Sitra plant seems assured of full capacity production indefinitely. It even achieved this in 1979 (at a time of world surplus capacity), when four-fifths of the 251,259 b/d processed was exported. Oil is purchased from Saudi Arabia to keep Sitra running at design capacity.

How long will Bahrain's oil — and more importantly, gas — last? Oil reserves are generally put at around 240m barrels, although enhanced recovery projects might eventually increase this by half as much

again. (That implies a minimum life of 13 years at current production rates. Gas is more problematical, as only recently have international prices risen sufficiently to encourage exploration work aimed solely at locating gas. Drilling work is continuing, and reserves are thought to total 9,000bn cu ft.

Only offshore is there much chance of finding new oil reserves. However, a median line dispute with Qatar is putting a brake on exploration activity. Just one well was completed offshore last year, an 8,000 ft wildcat 90km off the northwest coast, drilled by Union Texas in acreage relinquished by Superior. It was dry. Nevertheless optimism remains, for Bahrain's offshore areas have received far less exploratory attention than the island itself.

CSO: 4820

DELEGATIONS PROMOTE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION ABROAD

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 15 Feb 81 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN, Feb. 14 (Pars) — The Iranian delegations which have travelled to various countries of the world in order to explain the stands of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, separately met and conferred with authorities of their respective countries.

Fakhredin Hejazi, a deputy of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, who heads the Iranian delegation to Italy met and conferred with the Italian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Italian Deputy Minister said that they valued the real independence of Iran and strongly condemned the Iraqi aggression against Iran. He also called for the expansion of mutual relations between Iran and Italy and declared the readiness of his sovereign country adding that Italy would fulfill its undertakings towards Iran.

Meanwhile, the Iranian delegation to France, gathered in Neauphle Le Chateau over the objections of the French security officials, and held their prayers there.

Another report indicated that a meeting took place between the Iranian delegation and the President of the Democratic Republic of Yemen during which the delegation visited the Ambassadors of the countries of the Arab Steadfastness Front and representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

According to reports from Moscow the Iranian delegation accompanied by the Iranian Ambassador, Mohammad Mokni,

met and conferred with the First Deputy of the Soviet President, at the Kremlin Palace. The Iranian delegation also visited the Institute of Eastern History (Orientalism).

The Iranian delegation to the German Democratic Republic met and conferred with the German Foreign Minister, Oskar Fischer on Thursday. The two sides announced their willingness for expanding friendly relations. The German Minister, stressing the importance of the victory of the Iranian nation in achieving a popular revolution, reminded the delegation of the solidarity of the GDR with the Iranian Revolution. Announcing his country's misgivings regarding the Iraq-Iran war, he said that the disputes of the belligerent countries should be resolved peacefully and without the intervention of foreign powers. Declaring support for the anti-imperialist campaign of the Iranian nation, he said that his sovereign country will support those nations which struggle against colonialism, Neo-colonialism and racism.

The head of the Iranian delegation to Islamabad, Pakistan, Ayatollah Jannati, called on the Muslims to preserve their unity and support the oppressed peoples in their campaigns against the Imperialist and Zionist forces. He also thanked the Pakistani Muslims for their spiritual support and material aid to Iran and for volunteering to participate in a Jihad against the mercenaries of Saddam.

The Iranian delegation to Yugoslavia, led by the Iranian Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Jazebi, met with the Yugoslavian Vice-President in Belgrade. The Yugoslavian Vice-President recommended Iran to utilize the experience of all the revolutionary countries, including Yugoslavia, in reconstructing its country. Expressing his sorrow over the Iraqi aggression against Iran, he announced his readiness for resolving the differences of the two countries adding that this war was only to the advantage of the superpowers.

The Iranian delegation to China met with the authorities of the Foreign Ministry of China and the Muslim Ulema of Peking, and visited the exhibition of posters and films held at the Iranian Embassy there. Over 200 high-ranking Chinese officials, including state leaders, ambassadors, members of the political representations of other countries, representatives of various news agencies, newspapers, the Islamic Association of Peking and some of the University professors visited the exhibition.

The Iranian delegation presently visiting Tunisia on the occasion of the second anniversary of the victory of the Iranian Islamic Revolution met the Tunisian Prime Minister, Mohammad Mazali and discussed various bilateral issues with him, reported Pars News Agency.

Dr. Mahmoud Kashani, leader of the Iranian delegation explained Iran's foreign policy

and handed over a letter of the Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Ali Raja'i to the Tunisian Prime Minister.

The Tunisian Prime Minister, while declaring Tunis's support for the Islamic Revolution of Iran, presented a copy of an article published in 'Al-Fikr' magazine in support of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. The article was published prior to the success of the Islamic Revolution.

Later, Dr. Kashani while giving a detail of the foreign conspiracies against the Islamic Republic of Iran referred to the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran and said that "since the Iraqi government could not tolerate an independent state with an atmosphere a real Islamic democracy, became a tool in the hands of superpowers for conspiracies against Iran. The dictatorial regime of Iraq wanted to escape from its downfall and thereby imposed this war against the Iranian and Iraqi nations. Iraq has done the greatest service to the enemies of Islam and Muslims through this war", declared Kashani and said that "Contrary to the excessive propaganda made by Iraq against the Islamic Republic of Iran, we witnessed that the people of Tunisia are fully aware of the facts".

At the end of the meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, the Tunisian Prime Minister presented a copy of the Holy Quran to the leader of the delegation for the Iranian Prime Minister.

CULTURAL EXCHANGES PROPAGATE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION ABROAD

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 16 Feb 81 p 2

[Editorial by S. Moadab]

[Excerpts]

For those who have been saying for the past two years that there is no understanding between Western educated people and the ulama, it will seem strange to see at least one alem in each delegation. Another peculiarity of these missions which would certainly neutralize all the false propoganda is the capability of the authorities in the Islamic Republic to start such an attack on all fronts. This initiative taken a short time after the "hostages" affair that had kept busy almost everybody in the government, shows that if we feel the necessity, we are able to work in coordination. Of course we cannot judge before all delegations are back and before all evaluations are made. But the mere initiative itself is already praiseworthy.

The representatives from Iran have been busy with cultural exchanges in more than thirty countries. News reaching us from China to Albania, from the Philippines to Indonesia, from Rome to Paris show that our brothers are successfully implementing their heavy duties of the exportation of the Islamic Revolution. In the Soviet Union the three man delegation has been to Kremlin to express the views of the Islamic Republic and to present in a better way the real significance of our policy of neither West, nor East.

The presence of these delegations in countries with different systems of government puts an end once and for all to the false propaganda that we do not want to have friendly relations with others.

The presence of the Iranian delegations among the people whose governments have not taken a friendly position vis-a-vis the Islamic Revolution is a clear evidence that we distinguish between peoples and their governments as Imam has said. The Iranian delegation has gone to Neauphle-Château to express the tribute of the Iranian people to the unforgettable hospitality of the French people, although only a week ago the French government sent aircraft to bombard our cities and residential areas by the Ba'athist pilots.

The presence of the Islamic delegation and the apology offered by Chinese authorities for the unfriendly position taken by this country against our people during the last days of the deposed shah's regime shows that mistakes are correctable.

We are people like others. We need to establish mutually respectable relations in all aspects with all those who would honor our system of government.

The meeting between a prominent member of our Majlis with His Eminence Pope John Paul II shows that we feel the need for common interest of both religions to give the peace and freedom for which the founders of both religions have been appointed.

The medical aid offered by the Japanese to the goodwill delegation, shows that the Islamic Revolution has friends all over the world.

Although achievements by the delegations are praiseworthy, we should not forget that when they return their real work will start!

Those who have cordially received their Iranian friends will legitimately expect their brothers to keep close contacts with them and to send them more information about further achievements of the Revolution. Friends are like money. Easy to gain but hard to save! If being good bankers is a Western capitalistic affair, establishing and continuing friendship is an old Eastern habit. We still have not forgotten that those who have more friends have more responsibilities.

SAVAK'S VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS REVIEWED

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 15 Feb 81 p 2

[Editorial by M.A. Munjee]

[Text]

Within Iran, resistance to the shah continued to grow. Imam Khomeini's directives were communicated via a remarkable network to the people in Iran and to the Iranians abroad. SAVAK excesses continued to grow. Incalculable number of political dissenters were arrested, thousands killed yearly and many thousands tortured and otherwise abused. Torture methods varied and included electric shocks on sensitive parts of the body, rectum abuse with broken bottles, ripping of nails, cutting of parts of the body and so on. Rape was frequent, sometimes to make a female revolutionary talk, at other times rape of a wife or daughter to make a man talk; after the shah had issued his order against the wearing of "chador" by women, many women—especially educated, young women, including many who had studied abroad and had made the conscious, deliberated choice to return to Islamic modesty—took to wearing the chador as a matter of principle. The shah's police and SAVAK often ripped the chadors off these women and, for their own amusement, tore off all their clothes and physically abused them. In 1975, the London Times, reporting on the growing evidence of torture used in Iran, also mentioned the allegations that at least some torture sequences were being filmed by SAVAK so that the shah could view them later, as he reportedly did.

In 1975, Amnesty International, headquartered in London, a strictly impartial body, said "Iran has the highest rate of death penalties in the world, no valid system of civilian courts and a history of torture beyond belief." Iran was one of the ten most frequently cited violators of human rights, by the Amnesty International, the International Commission of Jurists and by the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. In 1977, after considerable international pressure, the shah permitted the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit some of his prisons. In these 18 prisons, pre-selected for the Red Cross by the shah's regime, the Red Cross interviewed 80% of the 3,087 "security" prisoners in private, and later published its findings: the report said that a variety of torture methods used evidenced

not only by the sworn testimony of the detainees, but from the existence of the scars and other physical disabilities examined by the Red Cross medical staff. The torture methods most frequently used were: (1) Application of electrodes on different parts of the body (2) Suspension from iron collars (3) Burning of parts of the body (4) Crushing and ripping off of the finger nails (5) Rape (6) Sodomization with bottles and truncheons (7) deprivation of sleep and so on. Almost all the prisoners had been threatened with reprisals against members of their families.

No actual count has ever been possible of the number of people killed or tortured. Aside from the evidence of international organizations, however, there was the evidence of the eyes, of living evidence of torture: victims deranged after release, some blind, others with parts of the body dismembered or permanently damaged. Victims could be suspected revolutionaries or their families, including little children. The U.S.'s direct participation help in these brutalities against the people of Iran is well documented. For instance, by 1976, the U.S. had spent \$67,500,000 of American tax in training 11,025 SAVAK, Military, and Police personnel of Iran in "counter-insurgency operations", "internal security operations" "military intelligence interrogation" and so on. An additional \$11,712,000 was spent by 1973, on training Iran's SAVAK and police: among those trained under this program at the International Police Academy in Washington, was Nassiri, the head of SAVAK. SAVAK received, in addition to rifles, guns and other weapons, surveillance devices of various description, including the electric "shock baton". Riot control ammunition was supplied regularly: in 1978 alone, the U.S. Foreign Military Assistance program included, for Iran, 356,293 M17A1 gas masks, 11,554 OS gas grenades, 800 CBU-583 anti-personnel cluster bombs, and another \$285,000 worth of other riot control munitions and training films showing how to deal with a public revolt ... From 1973-1976, the U.S. State Department issued licenses to export 4,300 handguns and 810,000 rounds of ammunition for the Iranian Police.

While the CIA's covert operations in many countries of the world have become known in recent years, especially from the 1975-76 Senate Hearings, in no country was the CIA as blatantly active as in Iran over the past 30 years. Not only were CIA operatives working under cover in many American industrial and commercial operations in Iran, but CIA operatives were always part of the U.S. embassy and consular staff. Fictitious names and forged passports were often used, as was to be evidenced later. Shortly after Mr. Nixon became President, he appointed former CIA Director Richard Helms to be U.S. Ambassador to Iran, it was at the request of Mr. Helms and the CIA, reinforced by President Ford that details of the CIA operations — or indeed their scope — were only discussed in private sessions with the Senate Committee Hearings in 1976-76 and all details about the CIA operations were censored out of the published report.

By 1978, the Nixon-Kissinger encouragement of arms sales had enabled the shah to amass a military strength that was already one of the largest in the world. In 1977, a \$20,000,000,000 additional arms purchase agreement had been made between the shah and the U.S. This military might, coupled with a highly trained SAVAK and police force, all committed to no-holds-barred brutality, backed by complete and unconditional U.S. support, could, by any standards have considered invincible. Opposition and revolt of the masses, unarmed except for a deep commitment to a righteous cause, faith in God and in the leadership of Imam Khomeini seemed almost ludicrous and destined for a crushing extinction.

But it was not. Year after year, the volume of brutality, corruption and exploitation had been matched by a seething passion for justice among the Iranian masses. A nation suffering in silent misery from fear

— M.A. Munjee

CSO: 4920

FUNDAMENTALISTS BELIEVED ON TOP IN POWER STRUGGLE

Bonn VORWAERTS in German 22 Jan 81 p 11

[Article by Andreas Derer: "Mullahs at the Front"]

[Text] The outcome of the struggle between Islamic fundamentalists and social reformers will decide Iran's politics in the future. At the moment the orthodox forces seem to have the upper hand. President Bani-Sadr is the target of conservative criticism.

"The affair is over, today will bring a few developments. It cannot be entirely excluded that the hostages will be released today." The optimistic statement of an Iranian government spokesman, which gave new impetus to hopes for the release of the American hostages, in captivity for more than 14 months, was dampened again afterwards. The entire weekend was characterized by a hectic back and forth, questions and counterquestions between Washington and Tehran by way of Algiers.

This question and answer game was made more difficult by language problems: the notes exchanged had to be prepared each time in three languages: Farsi, English and French. French because of the Algerian intermediaries. There were ample possibilities for a misunderstanding here and there. But on Saturday evening it was finished: the agreement on release was concluded just in time to give a "parting gift" to the luckless U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

The release of the hostages and the return of billions of dollars to Iran will at least give the country, which had pushed itself into political isolation and economic ruin, a breathing space that it urgently needs with respect to the outside world. In internal affairs, however, little will change--on the contrary, the power struggle which has been smouldering almost since the beginning of the revolution will flare up more violently than ever.

Iran's future depends essentially on the outcome of this all-encompassing struggle, which is being waged between two great so-called "ideologies" at the feet of the Ayatollah Khomeini, who is still making the major decisions. The two contending tendencies are embodied in President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr on one side and the head of the Islamic Republic party, Ayatollah Mohammed Beheshti on the other.

Bani-Sadr is inspired by the idea of making of Iran a democracy in which social ideas--his opponents claim they are Marxist--link hands with the tradition of Islam. He stresses that the economic well-being of the populace should not take second place to the strictly religious traditions and spiritual ideals of Islam. For the proponent of a strong presidency on the French model a certain separation of faith and politics is not such a serious crime as it is for the Moslem fundamentalists grouped around the Ayatollah Beheshti, who appeal strictly to the laws of the Koran and who see religion and politics as an indivisible entity.

Even before his election to the presidency Bani-Sadr made sincere efforts to make clear to the people his vision of a democratic Iran under the green banner of Islam, but he has been unsuccessful so far. Almost every one of the plans came to grief on the resistance of the fundamentalists. The mullahs see in his activity "compromising," conspiracy and collusion with the hated foreigner, whose influence--they claim--is having a negative effect on the oppressed nations.

The president is too liberal for the Islamic fundamentalists and politically not enough on the side of the "line of the Imam," which has been worked to excess and repeated constantly since the taking of the hostages in November 1979, and which no one in Iran has yet been able to define. This "line of the Imam" is intended in the view of the fundamentalists to be a spiritual and political guideline for the Islamic republic, whose leading persons, in the view of the orthodox forces, have sufficient qualifications for their leadership roles if they are young and show revolutionary zeal, but above all faith in Islam.

With this Islamic faith, with this zeal, but also with threats, extortion and other not very clean methods, the fundamentalists have brought a large part of the Iranian media under their control. Barely a year ago, when Bani-Sadr had spoken out for the release of the hostages, the fundamentalists resisted.

It was not Beheshti or his adherents personally, but the "students who follow the line of the Imam"--in Tehran it is an open secret that Beheshti was the foster-father of these young people--who caused Bani-Sadr to run aground. Over the media, which have since come under the control of the fundamentalists, they mobilized the populace which, through its demonstrations in front of the occupied American embassy, led to a decision by the Ayatollah Khomeyni against the release of the hostages and therefore against Bani-Sadr.

The Orthodox Forces Have the Upper Hand

A little later, in the parliamentary elections, the president had to watch all his prospects crumble when the fundamentalists, with all the means deriving from their uninhibited imaginations, put a majority of their own people into the Majlis. A number of Bani-Sadr's supporters fell victim to the subsequent purge in parliament demanded by the bloodthirsty judge Khatkhalai. The blows against the president increased in number, and the only recourse open to him was to turn constantly to Khomeyni when things became too bad for him.

After the outbreak of the Iranian-Iraqi war, the balance of power seemed to shift in favor of the president. For the first time since assuming office he made

decisions with the support of his generals--Bani-Sadr is supreme commander of the armed forces--which initially at least were respected by the mullahs as well. Bani-Sadr developed an outstanding relationship with the armed forces, but it was this that made the fundamentalists watchful and distrustful again.

Their suspicions were that the president could become too powerful and, with the aid of the military, even initiate a kind of internal coup. Serious disagreements resulted. Increasingly, Bani-Sadr wanted to resist the attempts of the clerics to exercise more influence on events in the war. At that time mullahs were constantly traveling around at the front, making the generals and commanders of the various units and the regular military nervous with their religious exhortations. After these disagreements, at Beheshti's request, the supreme defense council was formed in which the president plays only a subordinate role. They are now blaming the president for the Iranians' inability so far to drive out the Iraqi aggressors.

The orthodox forces in Iran seem to have the upper hand at present. It is only a question of time, when Bani-Sadr, like so many other liberal politicians, will resign. Just a short while ago he sat huddled in his office and remarked to a few foreign journalists: "Is that really the will of Allah?"

9581

CSO: 4403

BANI SADR'S PAPER LABELED 'OFFICIAL ORGAN OF BAKHTIAR'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 26 Jan 81 p 10

[Article: "The Newspaper ENQELAB-E ESLAMI Defense Those Sentenced to Death and Imprisonment by the Islamic Revolutionary Courts So Much, That It Is 100 Times More Lenient Than Matin Daftari, Who Wanted To Defend the Condemned Hoveyda"]

[Text] Following the various questions and statements concerning the accomplishments of several months by the anti-narcotics staffs and special courts under the supervision of Ayatollah Khalkhali in the newspapers and in social forums, we obtained a letter from him in which he severely criticized some of the things published in the newspapers while explaining the way these courts work and how people were condemned by them. The exact text of Ayatollah Khalkhali's letter appears below for the edification of all:

Since my resignation, and many times prior to it, unseen hands have been at work that have wanted to deface the Islamic Revolution and to destroy the Islamic Republic of Iran by pulling the rug out from under me. These people have sold out to foreigners, and are the proverbial fifth column that wants to open a way for the West to enter Iran and to enact the same satanic plan of these corrupt standard bearers, that is the United States of America, and world-devouring Zionism. Among their self-sacrificing devotees are the people who run the newspaper called ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, who constantly produce not air. It is as if this newspaper is the official organ of Bakhtiar, using weak, imaginary, unresearched and unconsidered material. They defend those sentenced to death and imprisonment by the Islamic Revolutionary Courts so much that they are 100 times more lenient than Matin Daftari, who wanted to defend the condemned Hoveyda.

What do these stary-eyed people hope to accomplish by defending criminals? What is the significance of defending people who helped kill the defenseless people of Rasht, and who imported narcotics into Iran for years and drew our youths into oblivion a few at a time? Two examples of these smugglers are Korbasi and Mishqati, both of whom are first-class smugglers that I tried and sentenced to death, and who were cross-examined by Mr Mohammad Razvani.

In consideration of their repentant attitude we reduced their sentences by one or two degrees, but we confiscated the money they had with them. Both of them came into the courtroom abruptly and said they had been misquoted by the newspaper ENQELAB-I ISLAMI, but unfortunately during the last few days they quoted these two as saying that Mr Razvani had struck them and knocked both of them out and that after they regained consciousness we had taken money from them. I do not know if one or two blows knocked both of them out or if it is possible for one blow to knock someone out. Here it cannot be said that "wise men know." Instead, "everyone knows!" Two smugglers who have milked the people for years and led them into depravity, now that the public is agitated and they know Mr Razvani is in the revolutionary prison, are spreading lies everywhere. This is what Mr Razvani gets for not allowing two professional smugglers to be executed.

The Iranian nation must realize that smugglers have been able to peacefully continue their parasitic lives with these very tricks and plots.

Smugglers are the filthiest, most irresponsible and dishonorable of men who have absolutely no compunction about slander and false accusation. These two so-called Esfahani traders are examples.

There are also the complaints of Major General Samsam, who attacked Mr Razvani. This person is Bakhtiar's nephew, who was arrested by the Darvazeghar Committee and who wrote a letter to his wife in his own hand that said it was good he escaped Khalkhali's clutches by paying a bribe. Three days after his flight to Paris things started happening here. He is one of the coup d'etat plotters, whose activities I have discussed with Mr Bani Sadr and others.

This person has billions in wealth. When he was chief of the gendarmerie and employed in the government of idolaters, he had built shopping malls and other structures for himself in the best and most expensive streets of Tehran. I confiscated all of them except one run-down family dwelling, including the shopping mall on Jomhuri Street. We were lenient with him through the intervention of Mr Razvani and because of his contrition, he was released from prison. He spent some time assembling files with his friends. God knows what disasters befell the files during that time. Now Razvani, Commander Javan and Duzdüzani have been kept in Evin prison for 22 days and they have not been asked the slightest question. This is out of order. I told Dr Beheshti about this and he told me this must be investigated quickly. Their wives and children have not been to visit them yet. A procedure for action must be given to Mr Qoddusi, but we must be mindful that if we are going to attack each other the glass of unity will be broken and the way will be cleared for the Bakhtiaris.

True revolutionaries have given their blood both before and after the revolution, and especially the Islamic Fada'ian, who have suffered 316 martyrs on the southern front alone. Yet we see that in Karaj and other places they go to their homes unannounced at night and demand weapons. If they have weapons, they must be taken according to legal procedure, not illegally. As long as the Kumolen [sic], the Democrats, the Feda'i and the Mojahed are armed, the Feda'ian Islam ought to have weapons. It is hoped that Mr Qoddusi will investigate these matters so there will not be another tragedy.

IRAN

BACKGROUND, STATUS OF FORMER MINISTERS DISCUSSED

Tehran MARDOM in Persian 24 Dec 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] According to a document revealed by the student followers of the Imam line, a short time before the victory of the revolution, Ali Mohammad Izadi, the Minister of Agriculture in the provisional government, had requested a "green card" from the U.S.

The text of the document, published in the newspaper SOBH-E AZADEGAN of 2/10/1359 [23 Dec 80], is as follows:

From: Ali Mohammad Izadi

To: American consul; V.I. division; Agriculture Research Center; Pahlavi University, Shiraz, Iran.

American Embassy, Post Office Box 50

9 June 1978 - 20 Khordad 57, Tehran, Iran.

Excellency:

During my stay in the United States (Sep 1968 - Aug 1974), I was greatly impressed by Americans, especially their attitude towards each other and foreigners. Before returning to Iran, I spent many years studying in the United States. Following my return home, and after studying the situation, if possible, I feel I would like to go back and try to become a good and useful American citizen.

I have an M.A. and a doctorate degree in agricultural economy. Also I received a B.A. in agricultural education as well as a B.A. in general agriculture. My total wealth is 500,000 dollars. I have had 20 years of practical experience in managing a big farm, as well as experience in agricultural education and research. I feel that by immigrating to the United States I will be an asset for that country, and for sure, I will not be a liability for my chosen country.

I inquired from the American consulate in Shiraz about the required forms. I was instructed to fill the 179 biographical information forms and send it to the V.I. section of the American embassy, P.O. Box 50, Tehran, Iran.

I have done that and sent the forms in September 1977. I was told that I could not be assured that I would be issued a visa, and that it would take between 9 to 12 months for them to answer me.

To this date, I have not heard anything, and because of the importance of the matter for me, I feel worried and concerned. I contacted the immigration section in Tehran, trying to learn how things have developed and was told that they could find no copy of my request. I then visited the immigration section, visa department, in Tehran personally, and after two days of waiting, I learned that they do not have a copy of my forms either. Finally, yesterday, 8 June 1978, I got in touch with an individual in the immigration section in Tehran. He told me that it was not a matter of 5 to 12 months, but that it takes between 2 to 3 years (to receive a reply to application for immigration). Could you please look into the matter and try to help me find out: 1. At what stage is my application. 2. Approximately how much longer should I wait? Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Ali Mohammad Izadi.

Note. Since 'Ali Mohammad Izadi realized that his request for immigrating to America was taking too long, he decided not to pursue the request and went to America with a regular passport.

A Question for Dr Ebrahim Yazdi

Some time ago, in his talks with the newspaper ETTELA'AT (2/9/59) [23 Nov 80], Hojjatoleslam Seyyed Hosseyn Khomeyni said:

"Qotbzadeh was saying that Mr Yazdi had an American passport or a "green card." Supposedly this is done as sort of a commitment not to betray the U.S."

Now here is a question for Doctor Ebrahim Yazdi: Do you hold an American "green card?"

9561

CSO: 4906

'U.S. PLAN' TO OCCUPY THREE IRANIAN ISLANDS

lehran MARDOM in Persian 24 Dec 80 pp 1,2

[Text] In a radio and television interview about the news concerning the American plan for three Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf (the Greater and Lesser Tumbs and Abu Mussa), the Minister of State and government spokesman, Behzad Nabavi, announced:

"In connection with the occupation of the three islands, we wish to issue a warning to the states in the area. The U.S. has prepared a special force for action in the area under exceptional circumstances. Because the three islands are located in the Strait of Hormoz, the situation is very critical. We therefore warn the states in the area to beware of this dangerous American game that could create a critical issue. It is enough to fire one shot and create a pretext for the U.S. to intervene. This kind of intervention is not in the interest of anyone in the area, and everyone should be aware of that."

(SOBH-E AZADEGAN, 1 Dey 59 - 22 Dec 80)

The statement by the Minister of State is timely and a proper warning. But the threat of American intervention is far more serious than to be confronted and stopped by a mere warning. As had been repeatedly pointed out in the newspaper MARDOM, American preparation for war and concentration of a huge American naval and air force in the Persian Gulf area have been going on for the sole purpose of threatening military intervention in the Islamic Republic of Iran and for supporting anti-revolutionary elements and conspiracies against the Islamic Republic of Iran. For that reason, the threat should be taken very seriously. The news of American plan for military intervention and occupation of the three Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf proves the fact that American imperialism is preparing a new plot against the Islamic Republic of Iran and has made the direct military intervention in Iran part of this plan."

Following the glorious victory of the revolution in Iran, and after the victory of the democratic revolution in Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf region and the Indian Ocean was transformed into one of the biggest concentration points of American imperialist naval and air units. Plan for the formation of a 110,000-man "Rapid Deployment" force, that had been under study by the American Defense Department, is now completed and implemented. This force is composed of air, marine and paratroop units and is to be stationed in American military bases in the Persian Gulf region after training.

Already deployed in the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea and the Strait of Hormoz are 11 ships, two aircraft carriers -- the "Eisenhower" and the "Constellation" -- the helicopter carrier "Guadal Canal" and 5 ships with 1,800 marines on board. In addition, American imperialism has bases in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Pakistan, Turkey and Somalia with access to all military installations in these countries.

On the other hand, American military assistance, and those of other imperialist powers, to the unpopular regimes and their satellite governments in the Persian Gulf region, especially to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Pakistan increased considerably in recent years. In addition, political relations and military cooperation among these nations had also expanded to a great degree. Furthermore, the extension of a 2 billion dollar credit to Pakistan by Saudi Arabia, the transfer of an army division and engineering unit from Pakistan to Saudi Arabia, the deployment of our flying radar planes (Awacs) by the U.S. in Saudi Arabia, the strengthening of the Egyptian air force by the U.S. and training and maneuvers of American military units in Egypt are all examples of expanded military activities that are taking place by cooperation between the American armed forces and those of the countries in the area.

During his recent visit to various Persian Gulf states and Pakistan, Saudi Arabia's minister of defense, Prince Naif Ben Abdul Aziz, has called for a military-political pact between the regimes in the region that are tied up with American imperialism. At the same time, American Admiral [illegible] had been talking about a military pact in the area similar to that of NATO.

In view of such an extensive and all-out military preparation by American imperialism in the region, the main purpose of which is the suppression of the revolution and the overthrow of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the American threat of occupation of the three islands of Iran in the Persian Gulf should be taken rather seriously.

The plot by American imperialism, which began along with the military aggression by the treacherous regime of Saddam Hussein against Iran, was doomed to failure from the very beginning, because, in spite of expectation by American imperialism and Saddam Hussein and his gang, who believed the Islamic Republic of Iran would collapse, units of the Revolutionary Guards, the armed forces and the entire nation rose to the defense of the Islamic Republic as a single unit. Now, with the defeat of the military aggression of the treacherous regime of Saddam imminent, American imperialism has launched on a new conspiracy against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Existence of internal differences, which is being whipped up by those ready to compromise and the adventurists, as well as by imperialist and anti-revolutionary elements, and also the continuation of the war imposed on Iran by the Iraqi regime, are being considered by American imperialism as the best opportunity and a proper condition for the implementation of its plot against the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Therefore, the plan for the military takeover of the three Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf by the American military, or by its unpopular puppet nations should be considered as part of the U.S. seventh conspiracy. It should be confronted and resisted by the mobilization of all the people and by uniting various revolutionary elements through immediate and serious action.

LAND DISTRIBUTION STAFF ISSUES PROGRESS REPORT

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 10 Jan 81 p 9

[Article: "Responsibilities and Accomplishments of the Land Distribution Staff"]

[Text] Economic Service--The Central Land Distribution Staff presented our reporter with a brief report on its progress up until the end of Shahrivar 1359 [22 September 1980] which is presented here for your consideration.

The Land Restoration and Distribution Law was approved by the Revolutionary Council on 1/26/59 [15 April 1980] after being confirmed and signed by Ayatollahs Montazeri, Meshkini and Beheshti, and the Central Staff, composed of 1) a fully empowered representative of the Religious Magistrate and the Religious Overseer, 2) a fully empowered representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, 3) a fully empowered representative of the Justice Department, 4) a fully empowered representative of the Ministry of the Interior and 5) a fully empowered representative of the Reconstruction Crusade, began work immediately in Tehran as the authority for implementing the law. The Central Land Distribution Staff, from its own inception until 1 Mehr [23 September] of the current year took the steps listed below in order to implement the law and carry out its assigned responsibilities.

Seven-person Councils

1. The seven-person councils, made up of land distribution officials, shall be composed of 1) two representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, 2) one representative of the Ministry of the Interior or the local province, 3) a representative of the Reconstruction Crusade, 4) a representative of the Religious Magistrate and the Religious Overseer, and 5) two representatives of the people of the village, to be confirmed by the representative of the Religious Magistrate and the Religious Overseer, who shall be people having little or no land from the area. In each province, according to necessity and the groups formed, the distribution of these groups in the province and their locations will be given in a special, detailed report on the seven-person councils.

2. Preparation of procedural instructions. In order to implement the law precisely, two main stages have been designated. A) The research stage. The Central Staff has prepared procedural instructions and given them to

the groups in order for them to obtain precise, accurate information on village circumstances, the amount of dead land, unused land and cultivated land, the number of people with little land, with no land and with a great deal of land of the villages in their jurisdictions so that the matter of distribution and observance of priorities may be accurately dealt with both in terms of land and people

Land Distribution

B) The distribution stage. In order for land distribution to take place according to law the Central Staff has prepared a four-part procedural instruction in accordance with scientific and professional laws. It has also prepared a set of guidelines on the subject of corporate production in order to observe the rules of law enacted by the Revolutionary Council, to prevent the land being parceled into small plots, to prevent buying and selling of distributed lands, and also with the aim of raising future production levels of the land and the farmers. A codified pamphlet was published in order to stipulate local regulations with attention given to research completed. A pamphlet was also compiled concerning the value of the soil. This pamphlet and the one on local regulations were provided under two separate covers for the local groups which had carried out the research stage, along with procedural instructions for the distribution stage.

Two stages have been designated in the assignment of deeds for the distributed lands. In the first stage, a temporary statement of transfer will be given to the recipient. A permanent deed will be given to the recipient after resolution of problems and elimination of probable errors in the deeds. Overall, the following stages have been designated in the land transfer process:

Review of forms completed in the research stage and the elimination of errors, a precise stipulation of local regulations, precise stipulation of size and layout of lands available for distribution, appointment of people to whom land is to be given and their priority ranking, stipulation of the number of people to be in each cooperative on the basis of circumstances obtaining in the village, designation of the individuals who are to participate in each cooperative, appointment of cooperative officials and overseers and clarification of precise stipulation of cooperative regulations for these people, division of land and designation of boundaries for each cooperative, issuance of a temporary statement of transfer, study and elimination of oversights, and finally, issuance of a permanent deed.

Organization of Promotional Seminars

3. Organization of seminars for the purpose of explaining and clarifying the law and its dimensions for the seven-person council. Immediately after formation of the seven-person council, the Central Staff will organize 2-day seminars in Tehran to be attended by council members. The seminar topic will be clarification and explanations of the law, explanation of the extent of responsibility and the needs of the councils, and the establishment of the cooperative relationship necessary to precisely implement the plan between the council and the staff.

4. Establishment of cooperative links with government organs and bodies concerned with the Land Restoration and Distribution Law, such as government officials in the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Reconstruction Crusade and the Bank of Agriculture. In order to establish permanent connections with responsible bodies and with the help of officials of these organs, the Central Staff prepared and sent scores of circulars to the seven-person council in the interest of harmony and the making of the necessary preparations.

5. Formation of four review committees for the purpose of overseeing and assuring proper implementation of the law by the council, and also orderliness, cooperation and exchange of information between the Staff and the council. So far these committees have reviewed more than 120 operations, and on the basis of accumulated data, through the work of these committees the necessary efforts have been made to overcome difficulties in the council.

6. Investigation of complaints. The Staff has formed a unit called the Response Authority, in order to deal directly with complaints arising from the council. If the complaint needs on-site investigation in some cases, the matter will be pursued by the review committees. If complaints received from the council are made to serve the interests of the complainer, a majority of the reviewers will see the baselessness of the complaint after talking with officials of the section and identifying the legal principles involved. In cases, however, where a conflict with the law is established, the Central Staff will solve the problem by replacing all or part of the members of the council.

Plan for Increasing Cultivated Areas

7. Preparation of cultivation regulations for the current year. In order that agricultural production not be marred by the slightest scratch in time of economic boycott and war, the Central Staff has prepared guidelines for bringing all agricultural lands under cultivation and given them to the council. These guidelines were prepared under the supervision of the President of the Republic and the High Judicial Council. In this same connection steps have been taken in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Bank of Agriculture to procure the necessary seeds and loans.

8. Efforts to make facilities available in order to boost output from those who will receive land. In order to accomplish this task, the Central Staff has tried to estimate the number of motorized pumps that will be needed to obtain water on the lands to be distributed by preparing approximate figures and with the help of the groups. It has been able, through discussions with responsible officials, to obtain 4 billion tumans in credit for use in obtaining things that will be needed by those to whom land will be distributed.

It is clear that this report cannot serve in any sense as a complete account of the untainted efforts of brothers and sisters, who, trusting in God and relying on the protection of the Imam and the nation, worked day and night

in the cities and villages in order to realize one of the great achievements of our splendid Islamic revolution. How can one explain the anguish of face-to-face encounters with the pain and affliction of villagers who toiled for long years under the oppression of tribal chiefs and landlords, which dominates the human spirit? How can the pain of witnessing indifference and bureaucratic obstruction be expressed on paper? How can one describe the pain of witnessing the obstruction created by those who do not see, or do not wish to see, that it is the calloused hands and the sunburnt faces of our suffering villagers that are the mainstay of the revolution, not the spoiled and bloody hands of freeloaders? Yes, if government offices which are relevant in some way to the implementation of this law had given the cooperation necessary to implement the law, if they had helped procure the facilities needed by those responsible for carrying out the law, and if there had not been the obstacles created by those who act against religious law and against the people without any knowledge of the law or how to implement it, and if instead of that those responsible for carrying out the law had had the benefit of their support, activities carried out so far would undoubtedly have been more extensive and precise than they have been.

9310

CSO: 4906

ARTICLE BACKS PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY FOR RADIO-TV MANAGEMENT

Tehran RANJBAR in Persian 4 Jan 81 p 6

[Article: "With the New Majles Decision Concerning the Communications Law, the Problem Remains of Choosing a Representative of the Executive Power"]

[Text] Following the publication of a statement by the Guardian Council concerning the legal plan for Radio-TV management and the announcement of conflicts between several articles and paragraphs of this law and the constitution, especially concerning the appointment of an Executive representative on the Management Council of this organization, many people thought the Majles was holding itself responsible for enforcing the principles of the Constitution as interpreted by the Guardian Council.

In previous issues of RANJBAR, we have expressed our views on this. We have told RANJBAR readers that one must wait for a reaction from the Guidance Commission and a session of the Majles with majority attendance.

On Monday, 8 Dey [29 December], however, at the opening session of the Majles, the Guidance Commission report, approved by a majority of the Majles, read as follows:

Paragraph (B) of Article 2 was written: "Based on Principle 126 of the Constitution, the Executive representative will be chosen by a group of government consultants and the name will be given to the President of the Republic."

Paragraph (J) [sixth letter of Persian alphabet] and (B) [second letter of Persian alphabet], which concern organization policy, regulations and budget, appeared as follows:

"Paragraphs (J) and (B) must be drafted within 1 month of the date of formation of the Managerial Council, and be presented to the Majles for study and approval as a draft with at least 15 signatures from representatives. Article 10 is deleted."

The commission's report was discussed in the Majles, and after arguments were heard on both sides it received majority approval with some changes. The problem of Paragraph (B) in Article 2, however, which is considered to be the

most prominent source of disagreement between the Presidency and the government, has not been resolved, and the problem of designating an executive representative remains, as before, at an impasse.

The problem of centralization for the President of the Republic with regard to Radio and Television management at this stage is that the executive representative must be subject to his confirmation, and if the President of the Republic is chief of the executive powers, then he cannot harmonize with his representative in Radio and Television, who is not subject to his confirmation. Therefore, the Constitution has made a great mistake in this matter and it is not in accordance with the wishes of many people. In other words, many people do not recognize the President of the Republic as Chief of the Executive powers, while the President of the Republic is Chief of the Executive powers according to the Constitution. The first statement by the Guardian Council, on Tuesday, 25 Azar [16 December], reconfirmed this.

According to Principle 126 of the Constitution, all government protocols and statutes are made known to the President of the Republic after being approved by the group of government consultants. If the President does not find them contrary to law, he sends them to the Council of Ministers, along with his reasons, for review.

As you see, Principle 126, which was the basis for the writing of Paragraph B, Article 2, has no bearing on the selection of an Executive representative. It concerns statutes. Apart, however, from the last Majles action's confusion of statutes and governmental protocols with the confirmation of Executive representatives, it was also in conflict with Principle 133, which explains the procedure for appointing Executive representatives.

It is interesting that after confirmation of the above wording concerning Radio and Television, the Guardian Council of the Constitution, which had forthrightly declared the Law of Radio and Television Management to be in conflict with the Constitution at the first stage and sent it back to the Majles for review, issued a statement on Thursday, 11 Dey [1 January] concerning the new Majles decision which confirmed it and said it was not in conflict with the Constitution! That is, though the recent Majles action is clearly in conflict with the Constitution, a decision such as this has been made, and after publication of two statements and returning it to the Majles, the current situation has gone back to the starting point and has even made the situation more difficult.

For all practical purposes this law shows that the Radio and Television Management Council will be in a state of limbo indefinitely. This procedure proposed by the Majles, though it adds to the President of the Republic's problems, also "helps" the President of the Republic by sending representatives appointed by the government to the Council of Ministers for review on numerous occasions and for specific, legal reasons. If the government advisory group chooses a representative who is suitable and on the basis of standards put forward by the President of the Republic, there is no problem. It appears now, however,

that with this recent decision Radio and Television is still without leadership, and on the other hand it gives the organization's current officials the opportunity to continue with its rapacious propaganda as before until the Management Council is designated.

Another point worthy of consideration is that the President of the Republic will either be crushed under this pressure or else, if he defends himself and stands up to it, they will blow the whistle on him so as to speak and they will yell out on every street corner that the President of the Republic is acting like a "dictator," that he acts like he is "Commander in Chief" of the Majles, that he even stands against the Guardian Council, and so on.

We have stated in previous issues of RANJBAR that there must be fundamental changes made in the Radio and Television Law and that the Majles must take steps to enforce the principles of the Constitution. It is our view that the Majles cannot place the fate of Radio and Television in limbo this way by using a majority of the representatives. The question now arises again, why don't the officials and representatives of the Majles put a stop to this confusion and uncoordinated behavior with regard to Radio and Television? Are they trying to tire out the President of the Republic, or do they regard the current state of this organization as propitious for the perpetuation of monopolization?

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MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION CITES GAINS OF LAST 2 YEARS

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 31 Dec 80 p 9

[Interview with Minister of Transportation Musa Kalantari: "Creation of a Rail Line From Bait to Bandar 'Abbas Will Begin Soon"]

[Text] Mr Musa Kalantari, minister of transportation, in an exclusive interview with JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, discussed aspects of this ministry's accomplishments in the 2 years since the revolution. Our correspondent began by asking:

Question: What kinds of things has the Ministry of Transportation done since the revolution?

Answer: In the 2 years since the revolution the Ministry of Transportation has done a series of things domestically to purge and reorganize, and it has also performed a series of services, such as construction of roads and ports, measures for the preservation and maintenance of roads, and so on.

During these 2 years more than 20,000 kilometers of village roads have been built. This is twice what was done in 50 years prior to the revolution, because prior to the year 1357 [21 March 1978-20 March 1979] we had about 7,000 village roads. Concerning the main roads, in the year 1359 [21 March 1980-20 March 1981] desirable amounts of credit--meaning 60 percent so far--have been obtained. Of course, this ministry's problems, such as counterrevolutionary plots, collapse of the administrative system, flight of contractors and work stoppages in the ministry resulting from their flight, economic deprivation, shortages of fuel and spare parts and others must also be borne in mind. Despite these problems, however, the loyalty of our colleagues has been appreciable, and on the other hand, since there were no bad intentions, results and output were better than in even the best of times in the former regime.

Other undertakings include carrying out construction and road building with a new system, that is, one not involving the use of contractors. Before the revolution, all roads were built by contractors. The Ministry of Transportation was an organization for disbursing funds. Today, however, plans for roads are drawn in the Ministry of Transportation, and it is no longer simply a disburser of funds.

of course, contractors are also used to perform tasks, but we have nothing to do with contractors who turn jobs over to another group after collecting the money. Concerning road maintenance, considering the fact that throughout the 2 years of the revolution and for a period of time after that roads were not maintained, and also the problems this ministry has had, such as the fact that there were strikes all during the revolution, and that there were also work slowdowns and domestic uprisings after the revolution, the present usability of the country's roads is a testimonial to the pains taken by the personnel of this ministry. We must also say that the problems creating bottlenecks on many roads have also been eliminated and these roads have been made useable. Among these is the Firuz Kih road, which was completed after the revolution, and which, God willing, will open in the next week or two. At the present time we have around 5,000 kilometers of main roads, 300 kilometers of expressways, and around 7,000 kilometers of secondary roads. There are also more than 7,000 kilometers being asphalted and resurfaced. As I said, we must not forget the problems associated with this. Another factor is that we no longer employ any foreign companies. Concerning waterways, since there are no extensive waterways in Iran, most of the activity of the Port Authority of the Ministry of Transportation has focused on seaports. About 3 months ago, meaning after the war, we made the new port of Bandar 'Abbas operable. Concerning railroads, as you know, the Department of Railroads is the most dependent on the outside of all organizations in the Ministry of Transportation, since its driving force, that is the locomotive, is American, and though they have obstructed us in various ways up until now, our locomotives are again on the increase without our receiving even one American spare part. Fortunately, these economic sanctions have caused Iranian industrialists to use their own initiative. Concerning the construction of new lines, the East-Bandar 'Abbas line is now beginning operation and as a result Bandar 'Abbas will be connected to the interior by rail in the next few years. It has also been decided to make a study of a possible railroad line between Kerman and Zahedan. If this has positive results it will result in Iranian rail connections with Pakistan's and India's railroads. We will also make studies of possible rail lines in Dasht-e Moghan. Our intention is to rely more on railroads.

Question: What problems does the Ministry of Transportation have with respect to sanctions and administrative snags, and what steps are being taken to change shipping regulations?

Answer: Of course, what you refer to is not peculiar to the Ministry of Transportation. These problems beset every ministry. I think the greatest threat to the revolution is this very paper shuffling and our incorrect way of working. When we reverse this erroneous system, we are accused of obstructing the revolution, when it is not this way at all. Though there has been a revolution and we want to work for the people, there are those who beat their chests and put up with the heads of those who want to work. I am sure this current situation is a hindrance to the revolution. I think that the government must remove these barriers as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, there are people involved with these parties who have no intention or interest in the revolution. Some of these people are

...in the revolution. Consequently, with these same laws they are
the spokes of whoever wants to work in this country. Many revolutionaries who
have become tired of these laws and have grown up. The most serious and
worst problem is this para. King stated, for example, in the Revolutionary
Council, it is necessary to have a law that says that if a person is
found guilty of a crime, he must be executed. This is a very serious
problem. We have eliminated it, and we have replaced it with the death
penalty, and the jobs we could take on most quickly have been authorized. For example,
at the present time the Provincial Highways Directorate has the same authority
as a minister with respect to the construction of roads. This has improved
the situation, and we have been able to carry out the work. We need to get
authorization from Tehran to buy even the most basic part.

Question: Now the Ministry of Transportation has a shortage of specialists,
and what program does it have for this?

Answer: As others have said many times, unemployed specialists are really
a part of the imperial regime's system. If a specialist is motivated by
commitment, however, one may be assured that this specialist will be
employed in the service of the people and Islam. We need this kind of
specialist, and we have tried to the extent of our ability to attract them.
We have helped as much as we could with the problem of unemployment. We
have formed a team called the Employment Staff, which will begin its work in
the next few days. We have planned to start a manual road building program
to attract the unemployed. I am announcing here that the Ministry of Trans-
portation has need of and will employ all committed specialists in the country.

Question: What is the nature of your interaction with other revolutionary
groups, such as the Reconstruction Crusade?

Answer: We have worked very well with the Reconstruction Crusade and it is
a reciprocal cooperation. The brothers of the Reconstruction Crusade help
the Ministry of Transportation in most situations and this assistance is
also provided from our side. We have provided the Reconstruction Crusade
with a great deal of machinery for its use and the Reconstruction Crusade has
also provided us with good personnel. I am very satisfied overall. As you
know, the vast majority of the Ministry of Transportation's programs is rural construction.
In this work the brothers of the Reconstruction Crusade play a very
valuable and thereby do some of our work. This is a help to us.

Question: Can you describe your manual road construction?

Answer: We are very active in the Reconstruction Crusade in the rural
areas. We are doing this with good results. The first thing I want
to say is that there is an important link between manual road construction and manual
construction, but you know that in a country at war there are a lot of
problems with this, such as procurement of spare parts and the like,
and on the other hand we have a relatively large number of people who are
the quickest way to put them to work is to have them build roads. This is
very important. We have learned that we have a lot of people who are
not willing to work in the cities and these people are the ones who

In conclusion, Mr. Salantari said: I want to refer here to the people's cooperation. Our success will be guaranteed and we will be able to serve the people better when we have their cooperation, both from the point of view of road maintenance and from the point of view of removing obstacles to road construction. For example, the people can look after the roads outside the cities, and drivers can avoid carrying loads in excess of allowed limits. People can cooperate with the highway patrol, or for example, when a road is crossing someone's land, people should not simply think that the land is being ruined and fight and obstruct progress in the work.

END

TABRIZ FIRM PLANS TO INCREASE BALL BEARING OUTPUT

Tehran K. IRAN INTERNATIONAL In English 17 Feb 81 p 3

[Text]

TEHRAN, Feb. 14 (Parv) — The Iran Ball-Bearing Manufacturing Company has been one of the successful factories after the revolution. The company has been able to coordinate its production with the vehicle fabricating industries and other industries which require ball-bearings, and has taken remarkable steps towards minimizing Iran's industrial dependence. We sat down to talk with the person responsible for this industry, Hassan Khata'i, the Managing Director of Iran Ball Bearing Company.

"Movement towards self-efficiency and elimination of dependence on foreign imports are among the goals of the Islamic Revolution of Iran," said Mr. Khata'i. "Iran, after the revolution relies more than anything else on its specialists' brains and the powerful hands of its workers."

And our factory, as a small part of the Islamic community of Iran strives towards the realization of this goal. All the efforts of our workers, ever since the 22nd of Bahman, 1357 (V-day of the Islamic Revolution) have been directed towards the achievement of self-sufficiency," he added.

Mr. Khata'i then began to describe the activities of the factory. "This factory, built 11 years ago in Tabriz, employs the best system of production and the most qualified staff and at present supplies the best quality ball-bearings in the market."

"Before the establishment of this factory, all the industries in Iran had to import their ball bearings from abroad with heavy expenses and a lot of waste of time, thus, the country sustained severe losses."

"To meet this demand, this factory was established and is now able to produce over 120 kinds of ball bearings and taper roller bearings with a quality abreast of international standards."

The Company's History

Mr. Khata'i was asked to elaborate on the activities carried out by the company since its establishment. He said "The factory was established on September 25, 1969 with the cooperation of foreign investors. It remained a fief in the hands of foreign capitalists and the Swedish who manipulated the total process of production and obstructed all the ways towards progress. I should mention that in fact, they made us their own dependents."

"But after the victorious Islamic Revolution, foreign experts were expelled from work and the production of this factory was entrusted to Iranian experts, technicians and workers who managed to operate the factory efficiently."

"The quality of production has been ideal according to Swedish experts when samples were sent to Sweden for examination."

The Rate of Production

"Unfortunately, before the victory of the revolution, various kinds of ball bearings used to be

smuggled into Iran. As a result of which, this factory bore heavy losses and reductions in the rate of production, so that this company had to decrease its capital twice due to heavy losses."

"But now, apart from the enthusiasm and efforts of the Iranian faithful workers and experts, the government's policy towards the prevention of the import of ball bearings has caused a remarkable increase in production of this factory. A glimpse of the factory's production figures will assert our claim. In 1979, the factory manufactured 1,400,000 ball bearings. In 1980, we produced 1,600,000 ball bearings and now we have succeeded to boost the rate of production up to two million ball bearings a year. Of course, it should be added that this level does not satisfy me and my colleagues and it doesn't meet the country's demands either."

"Therefore, plans have been arranged to raise the level of production up to 3.5 to 4 million ball bearings this year."

The Management

Regarding the management of the company, Mr. Khata'i remarked "At present, this factory is managed by a 5-man board. The 370 employees of the factory enjoy all legal privileges and welfare facilities. The workers are all faithful to the revolution and carry out their assignments to the best of their ability and they use their skills to raise the production of the factory both in quantity and quality."

REVIVAL OF AGRICULTURE GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 Feb 81 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

THE FINANCIAL DAILY BOURSE in its leading article Monday stressed the need for revival of the agriculture sector of the economy: "As a result of the importance of agriculture in the economy, the government has made the revival of agriculture and betterment of life of the villagers as its main objectives.

Among the actions taken in this respect after the Revolution are: allocating a significant portion of the budget to be spent for construction in rural areas through the Reconstruction Jihad, assigning a seven-man commission to solve disputes between the farmers, and distributing lands among the farmers.

In addition to these measures, added the newspaper, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the banks and the Ministry of Roads and Transportations have given special priorities to the villages, have provided them with necessary loans, built roads for them and provided them with electricity."

The newspaper praised all the actions taken by the concerned Ministers and authorities for the development of the villages which had been ignored for long years and the measures taken for the betterment of the living standards of the farmers, such as the health care and so on: "Although these steps have produced positive results, we are still far from reaching self-sufficiency in agriculture and, in order to increase production to a proper level, there is need for prompt and effective measures.

To increase production of agricultural and livestock products, carefully drawn plans and programs are called for.

Unfortunately, at present as a result of the imposed war on Iran by Iraq, new problems have been set in the way of development of agriculture such as shortages of animal and poultry feed, pesticide materials and difficulties that the farmers in the war-stricken areas face. The agricultural output could not be increased immensely without utilization of the large agro-industry complexes. To this end in the agro-industrial poles in Azarbaijan, Khorraman, Fars, Kerman, Guilan, Kermanshah, Kurdistan, Khuzestan and other areas proper programs must be carried out."

The article concluded by saying that it is only by promoting agricultural activities, increasing the agricultural production and developing the agro-industry poles that the country would be able to achieve self-sufficiency in agriculture.

GRADUAL PEACE PROCESS ADVOCATED

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 18 Jan 81 pp 5, 11

[Article by Eli Feingersh: "Guide to Secure Borders"]

[Text] The term Israeli security is made up of several parts, one of which is secure borders, or defensible borders. It is generally agreed that this is a most important topic from a military standpoint, most complex because of many factors as well as sensitive because of political considerations and decisions.

Secure borders refer to definitive borders between Israel and its neighbors. It is safe to assume such borders will also be the definitive political borders, although in our case there are those who maintain that secure borders are not necessarily the same as political borders.

The Stages Method

Secure borders are meant to insure the possibility of reasonable physical defense of the Israeli territory and population at all times, in every situation, and under any circumstances, even after the peace treaties between Israel and its neighbors are signed and common interests and full relations develop. This security prerequisite is a conclusion arrived at because of the wars of the past and the lack of trust in the Muslim-Arab world, which according to all professional opinions has not changed its basic principle to destroy the Jewish state and to liquidate the Zionist undertaking. This deep rooted lack of trust on the one hand, and the fear of violation of an agreement striving for immediate comprehensive peace at its inception, on the other, create a political conception which prefers interim agreements to final agreements (including final borders).

Indeed, interim agreements have clear advantages. If, in an attempt to reach a comprehensive agreement it turns out that the differences are such that no progress can be made in the negotiations, or even a desire to give up the initial intent to find a political solution emerges, it is better to reach an interim agreement and keep the political momentum going. This way a partial agreement is reached while the differences are left for further ongoing discussions.

There Is No Political Time

Yet the method of slow, safe, convenient progress is only possible if there is political time for it. In other words, if conditions allow stretching out the negotiations for months or even years. The great limitation of the stages method is that as long as the parties have not reached a final agreement new factors may emerge which intentionally or unintentionally could cancel the interim agreement which has already been reached. This is true about all ceasefire agreements signed between Israel and its neighbors after the War of Independence, as well as the observation that if we are not aware of the dangers inherent in interim agreements we may regret it for years to come.

If we apply this truism about the stages method to the political-military situation in the Middle East today, it follows logically that Israel does not have political time to conduct negotiations for interim agreements with Jordan or with Syria, not to mention the grave danger in the absence of negotiations. The absence of political time is the result of the global struggle and of the inter-Muslim struggle in our region, in which Israel's neighbors are involved in one way or another.

The two levels of struggle are rapidly escalating. New war fronts will start in our region in this decade. It is interesting that in the cauldron of the Middle East Israel is relatively left alone by its traditional sworn enemies. The Arab-Zionist conflict has been "neglected" in comparison to the inter-Arab and superpower conflicts. This unexpected change was undoubtedly caused by the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

Israel Unifies Its Enemies

Yet leaders and interests in the Arab Muslim world are looking constantly for ways to contain the confrontations and to reunite. The constant unifying factor in the area is Israel. These days Saudi Arabia is trying to pacify the Arab hawks and to bring them to the next Arab summit. Syria's president is also willing to forget the confrontation with Jordan, which nearly caused a war between them, and unite the Arab camp against Imperialism and Zionism. Because of this danger of Arab unification "through" Israel, final agreement should encompass all the problems in the territories. This question seems settled, since there is nothing to talk about and nothing to give up, according to most opinions. And yet it is precisely the question of Jerusalem, which outwardly does not concern us, can be the cause for Arab unification and for an all out Arab military, political and economic campaign against Israel.

If we are to sum up this part of the considerations for determining final borders, it can be clearly stated that any unstable political situation (the lack of negotiations or interim agreements) invites and facilitates war and the cancelling of any political progress. It is, therefore, necessary to make a special effort to quickly achieve final agreements with the Arab states (comprehensive peace), and the give-and-take of secure borders should not torpedo or weaken such effort.

To Whom Do the Territories Belong?

The status of the territories, from the standpoint of international law, determines the attitude of international bodies, of countries, and of international public opinion toward Israel's decisions and actions in this regard. As an example of such reaction we saw how, after passing the "Jerusalem Law," Professor Shlomo Avineri pointed out: "Thirteen foreign embassies left Jerusalem; many international bodies and countries passed resolutions which worsened Israel's position; the rift with Israel's best friends in the U.S. and part of diaspora Jewry was deepened. It was one of the worst mistakes ever made by Israel, and no other action did more to undermine Israel's legitimate status in Jerusalem like the "Jerusalem Law."

The legal status of the territories states Israel's right for sovereignty over them or temporary legal use of them. Since much land in the West Bank is of nebulous ownership, there is a need for a legal political mapping of the area. In such mapping much land will be discovered as "state land," ostensibly belonging to Jordan, since the area was conquered by Jordan during and after the War of Independence. No one will have any complaint toward Israel for annexing those lands or for settling it permanently, only because Israel agreed not to change the international border (in the 1949 ceasefire agreement), which was not agreed by both parties (Jordan and Israel). In negotiations for a final solution there is room for new partition of land, which will take into account the security needs of Israel, density of Arab population etc.

Another question which will determine the fate of the territories is legal undisputed ownership of land. This basic guideline will, for instance, show the optic deflection regarding the original land of the Etzion Bloc and other lands which were acquired legally and paid in full for by Jews prior to 1948, and which were liberated in the Six-Day War. Such territories should be under Israeli sovereignty even if they create a pocket inside sovereign Arab territory. A corridor could connect them to the mainland, just as a corridor could connect the West Bank with the Gaza Strip. In such arrangement there can also be an exchange of territories in order to straighten out the final border, satisfy as much as possible Israel's security needs and eliminate reasons for conflict in time of peace.

Strategic Depth for Armor

Military balance of power appears to be the main consideration in determining final borders. This is usually seen in connection with the term strategic depth. These two factors are expected to insure that in case of Arab attack in the east (as well as the south), the containment system along the final border will be able to stop the enemy until the civilian reserves arrive. Along the agreed border (the green line), the "depth defense" is the best military strategy. But in other vital security areas, where there is no agreement as yet--occupying ridges, building base and establishing settlements, there may be serious obstacles to any negotiations.

The tendency to hold on to territories, or routes, between the green line and the security border in the east (the Jordan), in order to keep the border militarily secure, is a military strategy which is certainly a source of concern which should lead to annexing many areas in frontal and rear sections related to the security border.

But a more advanced and realistic view must allay the fear of those who are so frightened by the vision of 100 armor divisions sweeping across the border. The arithmetic addition of the total numbers of tanks of Syria, Iraq and Jordan does not necessarily indicate their military might on the battlefield. In the Iraq-Iran war, the Iraqi armor, with its hundreds of pieces, could not pass the test of battlefield reality. There are better means of containment today than heavy tanks, which were certainly not built only for containment.

Advanced Military Defense Is Needed

Demilitarizing of the territories threatens significantly the strategic depth. But the dogmatic definition in regard to final settlement regarding this term (of Aharon Yariv), "The area between the most advanced line where Israel can keep military forces for its defense, without infringing on the sovereignty of another state, and its vital territory" (of the attacked country - E.F.), fits conditions and the political-military situation in the continent of Europe, but is not useful for determining Israel's defense policy. Accepting this definition as exclusive must lead to annexation, which is needed in order to keep a reasonable strategic depth. Besides the fact that such definition can lead to a negative political situation (difficulty to conduct negotiations under such conditions), it is basically defeatist from a military standpoint, as it refers to an area (vital) within the (attacked) country.

A strategic depth based on (in military planning) the area of the potential enemy and basic targets in that area, negates the need to hold on to occupied territories and enables the parties to negotiate a final solution. But such approach calls for a tough and purposeful security policy, and it requires in particular an advanced strategic conception and the building of modern forces different from the traditional ones now in use. Combining sophisticated alert methods, efficient containment methods, and mobile deterrent forces in the third dimension, as well as a political situation of final settlement, can insure Israel's existence and its integration in the region. To remove any doubt concerning the usefulness of Israel's atomic option, as part of the deterrent system, let it be said unequivocally that the balance of terror is not applicable to the Middle East. The Arab nuclear option can be neutralized in principle only through peace treaties.

Settlements for Security Or for Annexation?

Security settlement is a traditional important part of determining political and security borders. We have mentioned depth defense as a perfect means of containment, against any possible Arab military coalition (to use the term of those in charge of this issue in the IDF). But such solution only works in a recognized sovereign territory, yet invites war in an annex or "fluid" area. The role of the civilian settlement in national defense should be studied thoroughly. One should be fully aware of the change that has taken place in this area after the Six-Day War. This was a clear turning point from political-security settlement on legal land, or land included in the recognized territory of Israel, and settlement in territories which were expropriated unilaterally against the wishes of the whole world.

A clear distinction in justifying security settlement from the political, legal and moral standpoint, will lead to the conclusion and the principle, that one cannot settle "nebulous" areas indefinitely, in the absence of a political agreement to that effect, and that efforts have to be made to preserve settlements which were established under a different political-military reality in areas vital to Israel's security. All this refers to the West Bank and part of the Gaza Strip. The legal ownership of the Golan Heights is not in doubt.

At the same time it seems that precisely in this extreme legal case there is a good chance to reach a political solution. There seems to be an international consensus regarding the importance of the Golan to Israel's security, and, on the other hand, Syria's occupation in Lebanon is predicated on Israel's policy. This backdrop can prepare the ground for a political settlement, according to which most of the Golan Heights will remain under recognized Israeli sovereignty.

Summary of the Parts on the Map

A security border which does not coincide with a political border is a red line regarding a peace treaty dealing with military and security matters. Just as the Jordan can be a security border in the east, the Suez Canal is already, in effect, the security border in the south. In order not to risk war, and in an effort to put into effect the final political borders which were agreed on in the peace treaty, one can approach the matter in stages. The Egyptian-Israeli model of deployment of forces in stages according to a peace treaty, can also be the solution in other areas.

After we have studied the various parts according to which final borders can be determined, each part clearly and definitively, we have to put it all together and make sure the parts fit. This can be done by drawing the borders on the map. Thus we arrive at political and security borders which are agreed upon, which, though they may not guarantee automatically peace unto eternity, they are still the most we can hope for in international relations, and if maintained prudently can last for years and for generations.

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REAGAN POLICY ON MIDEAST OIL. ISRAEL ANALYZED

Tel Aviv HA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Jan 81 p 5

[Article by Mordkhai Gazit: "Reagan--Between Saudi Oil and Jewish Intellectuals; Ronald Reagan Will Be Sworn In Tomorrow As 40th President of the U.S.; Former Director General of Prime Minister Office, Israel Minister to Washington and Ambassador to France Spending Sabbatical at Harvard, Examines Question Whether Reagan Is 'Good for Jews.'"]

[Text] In recent years a small revolution has taken place among Jewish intellectuals in the U.S. They have abandoned their liberal views and have adopted neo-conservative views.

Those people are vocal. One of them--perhaps the most visible--is Norman Podhoretz, editor of the monthly Commentary, issued by the American Jewish Committee.

In any case, in an article published recently in the New York Times, dealing with conservative thinkers who are bound to influence Reagan, Jews stood out, among them: Milton Friedman, Alan Greenspan, Irving Kristol, William Speer, Richard Pipes. One Harvard expert on internal U.S. affairs pointed out that if there are half a dozen Jewish intellectuals around Reagan it is because Jews in America are a powerful part of the American society and it is natural for them to be involved in all areas of endeavor in the U.S.

If it is not possible at this time to tell with absolute certainty that Reagan will be "good for the Jews," that is, for Israel, it is because of the Arab oil factor which is an unknown in the administration policy making. The awareness of this subject is much sharper today than ever before.

This means special attention will be given to this issue. First, there is no military and economic security for the U.S. without resolving the energy problem. And second, the Persian Gulf, especially the oil fields of Saudi Arabia, are a supreme interest of the U.S. Thus, one can hear experts arguing that Saudi Arabia is perhaps one of the most important, if not the most important country among the friends of the U.S.

Following this view, there has been many studies and assessments which do not favor our cause. Thus, for example, Herman Eilts, former U.S. ambassador to Egypt, recently published a long article on the Persian Gulf. As an experienced diplomat he was asked by President Carter to maintain contacts with the Saudi court after his retirement from the service. His article, then, reflects an expert opinion on the Arabian Peninsula.

Though not hostile to Israel, the article keeps repeating that the Arab-Israeli conflict has great influence on the stability of the countries in the Gulf. The Palestinian communities there do not let the local governments forget the Palestinian problem. Eilts believes that an oil embargo similar to the ones of 1967 and 1973 may be imposed on the U.S. if hostilities between Arab countries and Israel are renewed, although he does not think the Saudis and other Arabs would use this weapon in time of peace. Still he maintains that means such as raising oil prices and slowing down production may be used if the present absence of progress in the Palestinian question continues. He further points out that the success of the autonomy talks is not enough to satisfy the Saudis. They are interested in the Jerusalem question and in the problem of the 1947 refugees (a different problem from the 1967 refugees).

In the Camp David talks Israel was able to convince Egypt and the U.S. to leave this subject alone for now. The accords stated that "Egypt and Israel will work with each other and with other interested parties to establish agreed procedures for a prompt, just and permanent implementation of the resolution of the refugee problem." This was a nebulous summary which postponed indefinitely the treatment of this problem. Eilts points out that the Gulf states welcome the Palestinians when they come over, but only grant them the status of "guests." Thus, he concludes, the Israeli expectation that they will settle in Arab countries is not realistic.

In his opinion, the U.S. should carefully consider this question as to whether it is in the U.S. interest for such unhappy Palestinians to settle permanently in such vulnerable countries. In short, it is necessary in his opinion to broaden the scope of the autonomy talks to include the problem of the 1947 refugees.

A more stern and pessimistic view was expressed in an article published in a periodical of the U.S. Armed Forces. The author, who is careful not to reveal his identity and hides behind an assumed Arab name, "Kamal Kasm Mansur," is described as a former foreign service officer with a great deal of experience in the Persian Gulf.

He maintains that Saudi Arabia will abandon the U.S. if within half a year the U.S. does not change its policy. The present Saudi policy of adhering to the U.S. is most dangerous to the future of the monarchy. The Saudis are becoming convinced that they have cast their lot with a declining power. Besides, they are not satisfied with the American aid they receive. The U.S. does not hasten to supply them with the weapons they need. Many of the military experts from the U.S. are constantly criticizing and downgrading the Saudis for their inability to deal with the new military technology. The Saudi embassy in Washington is angry because Americans are prophesying the forthcoming demise of the Saudi monarchy. According to the Saudi argument, more and more countries seem to think that the end of the present Saudi regime is near.

According to the author of the article, not only the Saudis have begun to have doubts about their present policy, but also the Americans are wondering whether they should change theirs. Thus, for instance, American contracting has retreated in the Middle East from first to 12th place. In one year (from May 1977 to June 1978) American companies got 7 out of 220 contracts which were being offered. Out of projects worth 22 billion dollars, the American share was most modest--a total of 346 million dollars. While in 1976 those companies had 9 percent of the business, in 1978 they had to make do with 3 percent.

This author raises the possibility that the Saudis may impose an embargo on oil exports to the U.S. because of the lack of agreement in the question of the West Bank and Gaza. In voicing his criticism, the author says that the Saudis objected to the Camp David accords for several reasons. One, the accords forced them to cool their relations with Egypt out of solidarity with the Palestinians, while their real interest is strengthening their ties with Egypt in the military sphere. Moreover, the accords made the Saudi ties with the U.S. a dangerous matter far more controversial than ever before.

One may find comfort in believing that the Reagan administration will not be influenced by these disagreements and realize that they express a Saudi opposition mood, which is not yet strong.

But no one who knows anything can fail to realize that the Persian Gulf is a most vulnerable area, and the U.S. cannot change this basic fact. Although it is vital and urgent for the U.S. to have a military force there ready for action, it is a fact that the U.S. does not have at the moment the necessary force for such operation and it is generally accepted that using military power is the last resort. Reagan's foreign affairs adviser Richard Allen said recently that "A military force is secondary vis-a-vis implementing a strong consistent policy in this region."

If one rules out or almost rules out the use of force--except for Soviet intervention--it is still necessary to formulate a political alternative. This means finding ways to maintain relations with Saudi Arabia with at least the two following characteristics:

- (a) The ties should be profitable to both parties (also the U.S.).
- (b) They have to take place in a psychological climate which will enable the regime to continue close ties with the U.S. without exposing itself to dangerous criticism.

There is no doubt that the Reagan administration which will enter the White House tomorrow has no intentions to conduct its affairs while being dictated to by the Arabs, but it will be interesting to see how it will deal with the difficult questions which stem from the delicate fabric of U.S. relations with the Persian Gulf states, most important Saudi Arabia.

9565

CSO: 4805

MOVES TO CURB POWER WASTE PLANNED

Kuwait KUWAIT TIMES in English 22 Jan 81 p 2

[Text]

MINISTER of Water and Electricity Khalaf Ahmed Al Khalaf said yesterday that moves were afoot to cut down power consumption in Kuwait "which probably has the highest per capita consumption of electricity."

The moves, said, were aimed at reducing waste and controlling consumption within essential uses only.

The minister was speaking at the opening ceremony of the winter session of the Arab School of Science and Technology.

FEE

The regulatory measures now being enforced included the setting up of maximum electrical load densities for various types of buildings. The Ministry also collected from new consumers a "service connection fee" dependent upon the size and type of the electrical load of the building at unit rates which would increase with the magnitude of the load, the minister added.

Khalaf said the objectives of the measures was to create incentives to the designers and the users of new buildings to reduce electrical loads to reasonable levels and to improve the efficiency of the utilisation of power.

CAMPAIGN

He said the ministry planned to follow up the load-limiting measures with supplementary

steps, including information campaigns and educational programmes, to cut down waste.

The nine-day winter session is sponsored by the Kuwait University, the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, the Kuwait Establishment for Scientific Progress and the Syrian Higher Council for Science.

The main topic in the session is "Systems of Electric Power" ramifying into the various power sources and their potentialities of meeting the increasing demand.

Khalaf also spoke of the government efforts to make power available in the country at the cheapest possible price. "We have subsidised power prices but this has eventually led to overconsumption," he said.

Referring to oil energy he said that Kuwait was keen to preserve that depletable source both locally and worldwide. "Oil is our main source of national income. "But our plans to reduce our oil production has always been hobbled under the continued pressure of world demand," he said.

The minister stressed the role of Arab universities and scientific institutions in creating and developing the necessary technology for finding proper solutions to these problems.

STOCK MARKET TO ADMIT PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANIES

Kuwait **WAIT TIMES** In English 28 Jan 81 p 1

[Text]

KUWAITI private limited companies seeking to go public and sell their shares in the open market will be allowed to do so if certain conditions are met, Trade and Industry Minister Abdul Wahab Al Nifla announced yesterday.

Addressing a press conference held in his office, the minister said that the move was aimed at activating the stock market in a proper way.

According to the conditions set by the ministry, eligible company should have a full paid capital of no less than KD 5 million. The firm should also have been in business for five years with at least the last two years yielding profits.

The registered shareholders of the company should keep 40 per cent of the company's shares, each according to his quota, for the period of an year from the date of the ministry's approval to admit the company into the money market.

The profit and loss re-

port of the company and its latest balance sheet should be published twice by two dailies at least with the interval of a week between the two publications.

Companies with a capital of less than KD 5 million will be considered for approval one fiscal year after a resolution by their general body meetings to raise the capital to the required amount.

In all cases the company wishing to go public must be exclusively owned by Kuwaiti nationals.

The minister pointed out that for a private limited company to go public a re-assessment of its assets must be made to determine the book value of its shares. This requires a thorough study of the company's financial position and the rates of growth in addition to its profit potentialities.

In order to determine the market price of the company's shares, a comparative study must also be conducted involving a public shareholding company engaged in activities similar to that of the company in question.

The minister said that so far 7 limited companies had applied for approval to sell their shares in the bourse of which only three were found to suit the stipulations. These companies were identified by the minister to be The Financial Centre, Saliyah Real Estate and the Investment Group for Real Estate.

Meanwhile, a high ranking source at the Ministry of Trade and Industry said yesterday the ban on trading the shares of some Gulf companies will be lifted after making sure they meet the necessary conditions.

He added that the Ministry had already approved of transactions of shares of two companies after their eligibility was ascertained by means of a thorough study of their financial and legal standing in accordance with the guidelines set by the Council of Ministers. The two companies are identified as the Gulf Real Estate Investment Company and the Gulf Investment Company for Agricultural Development.

LONRHO, FRASER RELATIONS WITH GULF FISHERIES SUMMARIZED

London 8 DAYS in English 7 Feb 81 pp 34-35

[Article by Jeff Merrow: "Gulf Link in Battle of UK Giants?"]

[Text]

THE AFFAIRS of the Lonrho company and its chairman, Roland 'Tiny' Rowland, have long been a matter of concern in the Gulf. At present 16 per cent of the company is owned by Gulf Fisheries, the privately-held investment company of Sheikh Nasser Sabah al Ahmad of Kuwait. Doubtless Sheikh Nasser has been as puzzled as all the other Lonrho shareholders at recent events in the City of London over Lonrho's stake of 29.99 per cent in the House of Fraser.

Tiny Rowland and Lonrho — of which he is both founder and chief executive — have never been frightened to pick fights with prominent individuals on the question of shareholders' rights in a company. In March 1979 the battleground was Lonrho itself, as Gulf Fisheries opposed the re-election of two Lonrho directors and tried to have two Gulf directors elected to the board instead. At the time, bitter insults were traded concerning the two companies' accounting policies.

In the end, Sheikh Nasser's company failed in its bid to unseat the Lonrho directors. Tiny Rowland was acknowledged to have had a significant victory over Gulf, which at the time held 19.5 per cent of Lonrho and was the company's largest single shareholder. This was a larger stake than even Tiny Rowland's.

Since then two things have happened. Gulf has diluted its holding to 16 per cent, giving Tiny Rowland the major voting block in Lonrho. He for his part has learned to exert pressure on a company in which he holds the majority shareholding.

Throughout the summer, Lonrho attempted to persuade House of Fraser shareholders to increase the company dividend, contrary to the policy of its

chairman Sir Hugh Fraser. Lonrho seemed poised to succeed — but just when the Fraser annual general meeting took place to decide on the final dividend, Sheikh Nasser sold 8.3m Lonrho shares (3.5 per cent of the company) while House of Fraser made overtures to Gulf's investment adviser. Rowland's move failed.

The involvement of Gulf and Sheikh Nasser was seen as instrumental in Lonrho's defeat at the Fraser AGM. In the City it was felt that Tiny Rowland's attack on Sir Hugh Fraser's running of the largest British chain of department stores, which includes Harrods, was a softening-up exercise for a Lonrho takeover bid for House of Fraser. This was eagerly anticipated in the City and in the Middle East.

However, the expected bid never came. Commentators thought that after his initial failure Rowland was looking to patch up relations with Gulf Fisheries. Had Sheikh Nasser decided to sell his Lonrho shares halfway through a Lonrho bid for Fraser, for example, untold damage could have been done to Rowland's standing.

By this January, what was being called Rowland's vendetta against Sir Hugh Fraser was very much alive once more. This time the issue was a Fraser financial planning scheme under which one of the main London stores, D. H. Evans, was to be sold to financial institutions for the sum of £29m (\$70m) and leased back to the Fraser group.

An extraordinary general meeting was called to approve the plan. Just as in the summer before, Lonrho hoped to overturn a major Fraser board decision and bring the company into disarray. To add to the confusion, Tiny Rowland issued statements threatening to sell the Lonrho stake in

Fraser if the shareholders' vote went against him — and pronouncing that the department store chain was doomed to rapid decline if Sir Hugh remained its chairman.

For yet a second time, the Lonrho chief executive was defeated by a majority of Fraser shareholders — mostly the large institutions — and it appeared that he had at last decided to put his threat into effect and to sell Lonrho's shares in Fraser. Space was booked in the *London Times* and *Financial Times* to sell the 29.99 per cent shareholding, valued at £70m (\$170m).

Lonrho did not go ahead with the proposed sale of its Fraser shares. Three days after the shareholders' vote, the advertising space was cancelled. Paul Spicer, one of the Lonrho directors whom Gulf tried to depose in 1979, went on record saying that the Lonrho holding would be maintained: Sir Hugh Fraser now had Lonrho's full backing to carry on as chairman.

Such a startling switch from hostility to allegiance was matched by equally dramatic moves by the rest of the House of Fraser board, as well as by the group's merchant bankers S. G. Warburg, to unseat Sir Hugh as chairman. Just 72 hours after receiving a vote of confidence of 71.4m votes to 31.8m to continue with his outlined plans for House of Fraser, Sir Hugh was suddenly under attack from his former supporters — and being defended by his most vehement critics. A casual observer may well have suspected that something was going on behind the scenes.

And so it was. The story has now emerged of the reconciliation between Sir Hugh Fraser and Tiny Rowland. After the extraordinary general meeting had voted against the Lonrho faction, Rowland had been quoted as saying: 'I am not a gambler but I would lay 10/1 that Sir Hugh Fraser will not be chairman by the end of the year.'

While this may have reflected his anger of the moment at losing the vote, it even more aptly reflected a topic at the forefront of his mind — gambling. The night before the vote, a private letter from Rowland was delivered to Sir Hugh outlining various personal dealings of the Fraser chairman, but in particular making references to Sir Hugh's gambling debts. This letter was later put before Warburg's and the House of Fraser board.

'Certain allegations' were made in the letter by Rowland. 'He accused me of being bankrupt,' Sir Hugh was reported in the

Times as saying. 'I said I could write him a cheque for £250,000, or was it £500,000? I can't remember now. Yes, I have been gambling again. It might as well come out into the open. The last time I gambled was this month. I won in one place, lost in another, but came out even all over. But I am finished with all that now.'

How the sending of such a letter to Warburg's, with its revelations of an extravagant gambling habit, endeared itself to Sir Hugh is hard to understand. Yet as a result of the letter, Sir Hugh contacted Tiny Rowland in Paris to request a private meeting 48 hours after the D. H. Evans sale and lease-back vote. Rowland flew to Scotland, where a two-hour meeting between the former adversaries took place.

'Misunderstandings' of earlier days were cleared up at the meeting. It was agreed that Lonrho would resist all efforts to unseat Sir Hugh and, if necessary, would attempt to reinstate him should Warburg's succeed in bringing about a palace coup.

Upon receipt of the Tiny Rowland 'gambling debts' letter, the merchant bank renewed its efforts to have Fraser dismissed. Sir Hugh in turn used his best efforts to remove Warburg's from the post of advisers to the Fraser group. All parties to the dispute remain fervently at each other's throats.

The eventual outcome of the affair for House of Fraser and Lonrho is difficult to predict. Friendships born out of heavy-handed disclosures like Rowland's are not usually longlasting. It seems likely now that Tiny Rowland will support his newly-won friend only for as long as he in turn receives support for a full takeover of House of Fraser.

Cazenove maintain that together Lonrho and Sir Hugh control 33.5 per cent of the Fraser group shares. Another 10 per cent are said to be loyal to Sir Hugh. Some 40 per cent of the shares are in the hands of pension funds and insurance companies, who are likely to support Warburg's and the remainder of the Fraser board. The battle in the coming weeks will be for the hearts and minds of the uncommitted shareholders in between.

The deciding factor, in the long run, may yet prove to be Gulf Fisheries and Sheikh Nasser. Gulf's 16 per cent holding in Lonrho may still play a key role in the actions of Tiny Rowland in his efforts to control the House of Fraser. For like Lonrho, Gulf has shown itself capable of taking part in a good scrap.

BRIEFS

SINGAPORE PETROLEUM CENTRE--The chairman of the Kuwait Real Estate Investment Consortium, Ahmed al Duaij, has been appointed chairman of the International Petroleum Centre (IPC) to be built in Singapore. The centre, estimated to cost \$250m, will be financed by the states of Kuwait and Singapore, and oil companies. It is believed however, that Kuwait will hold a controlling interest in the oil-related venture, in line with its government policy. Kuwait is also one of the countries with which the Malaysian National Oil Company (Petrobras) plans to exchange different types of crude oil, as disclosed by the company's chairman. [Text] [London 8 DAYS in English 7 Feb 81 p 46]

AID FOR ZIMBABWE--Salisbury, Thurs.--The Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development has provided \$370,000 in aid to Zimbabwe to help finance a feasibility study for a major irrigation project in the southeast, the Zimbabwe Ministry of Economic Planning and Development said today. It is the first grant to Zimbabwe by any Arab country or development agency for a development project, the ministry reported. A delegation from the Kuwaiti fund is due in Salisbury in mid-February for further discussions, and the fund has also accepted an invitation to attend the Zimbabwe conference on reconstruction and development in March, it added. Meanwhile, reports in Kuwait said Minister of Finance Abdul Rahman Salem Ateeqi is expected to take part in a number of economic conferences scheduled to be held in Sudan starting on March 1. The first conference will be for the council of governors of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa. The bank has headquarters in Khartoum. The second will bring together the council of governors of the Islamic Development Bank. A meeting for governors of the Arab countries' central banks is also expected to be held in Sudan from March 7 to 9. Governor of the Kuwait Central Bank Hamza Abbas will represent the country in this meeting. [Text] [Kuwait KUWAIT TIMES in English 30 Jan 81 p 2]

CSO: 4820

COURT HOUSES, POLICE STATIONS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN SOUTH LEBANON

TA221734 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] Court houses and police stations will soon be established in the southern Lebanese Christian enclaves in order to gradually bring back law and order to the area. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, has reported from the north that the first police stations will be established in Marj 'Uyun and Bint Jubayl.

[Begin Horowitz recording] Military and civil courts and police stations will be established in southern Lebanon in the near future, as a part of the attempt to bring back life with law and order prevailing. As will be recalled, in the civil war in Lebanon in the 1970's, during which the south was cut off from the rest of Lebanon, normal life and administration in southern Lebanon was disrupted. This is the first time since the civil war that an attempt is being made to reinstitute normal government arrangements. This attempt is being made against the background of the relative calm recently prevailing in the Christian enclaves in southern Lebanon and Major Haddad's desire to prove that a return to orderly life will, in the end, guarantee Lebanon's release from the yoke of foreigners. Haddad also wants, by building up an infrastructure for a rule of law, to create order in the enclave villages and set norms of regular rule.

The policemen from the police stations to be built in Bint Jubayl and Marj 'Uyun, which are the largest of the southern Lebanese hamlets, will be recruited from the inhabitants of the region and the militiamen. Judges for the courts to be established in Marj 'Uyun have not yet been selected, but it seems that they, too, will be chosen from inhabitants with legal education who live in southern Lebanon. A house of detention will function in Marj 'Uyun, and up to now it has served as the place where terrorists and those who have collaborated with them have been imprisoned. It will be enlarged and will also serve the area's criminals. The sentences and punishments and law in the state of free Lebanon will be in accordance with those in existence in Lebanon. [end recording]

CSO: 4805

REPORT ON ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED

Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 30 Dec 80 p 6

[Article: "A Look At the Economy During the First 9 Months Of 1980: a Decrease In Imports Reported To Customs, More Exports, and an Improved Balance of Payments"]

[Text] The Studies and Documentation Center in the Beirut Chamber of Commerce and Industry has prepared a summary of developments in certain economic indicators during 1980, based on available statistics. There is a noticeable increase in export traffic, improvement in the balance of payments, increased traffic at ports and airports, and the currency situation has improved. The text of the summary follows:

1. Trade

Trade experienced continuous growth during 1979 and 1980, increasing 44 percent in 1979, and probably about 47 percent in 1980.

The primary reason for this growth might be the relatively improved security situation during 1979 and 1980 following the serious upheavals in Lebanon in 1978 which led to a deterioration of the economy.

The available statistics indicate that the value of imports in 1979 was about 7.5 billion pounds, compared with 5.1 billion in 1978. Exports were valued at about 2.7 billion pounds.

During the first 9 months of 1980 there has been a tangible rise in export traffic. Exports amounted to about 3.053 billion pounds, compared with 2.076 billion during the corresponding period [in 1979], a 47 percent increase. Seventy-Five percent was accounted for by industrial goods. The value of imports will probably have amounted to about 7.5 billion.

2. Balance Of Payments

Although there is a large trade deficit, particularly with the industrial countries, this is not the case with our balance of payments, which is balanced by virtue of the funds sent home by the estimated 250,000 Lebanese citizens working abroad, particularly in the oil-producing countries. Political contributions sent to Lebanon also play an important part in balancing the balance of payments.

The value of the changes in net foreign currency holdings--what the Bank of Lebanon calls the balance of payments--is +2.685 billion pounds at the end of 1980.

3. Port Traffic

Although the port was paralyzed for a long time in 1978, by 1979 it had been able to resume its normal activity, and had renewed its links with 167 foreign ports.

Port traffic in 1980 registered the following increases over the corresponding period in 1979:

Unloaded goods: 2.3 percent;

transit goods: 49 percent;

Unloaded containers: 193 percent; 22,098 containers arrived compared with 9,144 during the corresponding period in 1980 [sic].

4. Imports Declared To Customs

The value of imports declared to customs in 1979 was 682 million pounds, compared with 509 million pounds in 1978. During the first 9 months of 1980 this figure was 536 million pounds. The figure for 1978 is 10 percent lower. This is due to smuggling to avoid payment of duties; the traffic in foreign trade did not decrease.

5. Beirut Airport Traffic

Traffic at Beirut Airport increased by 6 percent for arrivals and 7.8 percent for departures over the same period in 1979. Transit traffic was down by 12 percent.

It should be noted that the number of departures has been between 5 and 10 percent higher than the number of arrivals every year since the events broke out in Lebanon, while they had been equal prior to the disturbances.

6. The Money Situation

The banking sector has been able to continue to grow through the gloomiest of times during the ordeal.

6.1. Bank Deposits

In millions of pounds:

1978: 14; 1979: 18; end of September 1980: 23.

The increase from 1978 to 1979 was 28 percent. During the first 9 months of 1980 the increase was 25 percent.

The value of bank deposits is said to have risen to more than 25 billion in November.

6.2. Loans To the National Economy

About 13 billion pounds in loans were granted to the national economy in 1979, a 30 percent increase. During the first half of 1980 14.2 billion pounds were granted.

Rising inflation may mask this large growth, but its size does indicate that there is definite growth.

7. Monetary Supply

liquid assets + quasi-money

$7.124 + 18.010 = 25.134$ billion.

The money supply rose by 23 percent during the first 9 months of 1980, compared to 19.4 percent during the same period in 1979.

The increased money supply is one of the symptoms of the inflation which Lebanon is experiencing.

The increase in this monetary effusion in Lebanon's economy is due to the following:

Financing the public-sector deficit by borrowing from the Bank of Lebanon;

The surplus in the balance of payments.

The following developments in the money supply since the 1960's must be noted:

A slow but steady increase in liquid assets;

a rapid and steady increase in quasi-money to the point that the growth of the money supply has not been affected by events the way other indicators are. However, we notice a rapid increase in quasi-money, and a steady decrease in the proportion of liquid assets to the total money supply, from 45 percent in 1969 to 28 percent in 1980.

8. Monetary Reserves

The Bank Of Lebanon has monetary reserves estimated at 25 billion pounds, based on the price of gold at \$600 an ounce. This is six times the value of currency in circulation.

Changes in Foreign Currency Holdings (in millions of pounds)

<u>June</u> <u>1980</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1974</u>
2.685+	2.074+	555+	2.403+	508+	350+	1.493+

Changes in the Money Supply Since 1969
(in millions of pounds)

<u>June</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
1. Liquid assets	7,124	6,648	6,148	2,998	2,619	2,275	2,001	1,676	1,657
2. Quasi-money	18,010	15,182	11,081	4,580	5,114	4,103	3,275	2,592	2,062
3. Total money supply	25,134	21,830	17,229	9,578	7,733	6,378	5,276	4,268	3,719
4. Liquid assets as a percentage of the total money supply	28	30	36	31	34	36	38	39	45

ELECTRICITY PROBLEMS, PLANS DISCUSSED

Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 29 Dec 80 p 6

[Article by Michel Marqus: "Theft and Loss Are the Chief Problems In Providing Electricity; a 5-Year Plan Will Cost 1.617 Billion, a 7-Year Plan Will Cost 2.2 Billion"]

[Text] Both the industrialized and developing countries face energy problems which differ only in degree. Lebanon is an energy-consuming country. Its only source of power, however, is water, which it must utilize to generate electricity. It must use thermoelectric power plants to meet the balance of its energy needs.

Since 1977 there has been a gap between the supply and demand for electric power due to decreased production as a result of the shutdowns which have affected the power plants, distribution networks and transformer stations. The Lebanon Electricity Authority [LEA] is no longer able to meet the demand. This became particularly acute after the events of 1978 and the drought of 1979.

Through two 7-year plans, it will try to implement projects to ensure sufficient production of electricity for local consumption.

Lebanon first turned its attention to electricity at the end of the provincial period, but production did not actually begin until after World War I with the plants at al-Safa Spring, the Ibrahim River, the al-Barduni River and later the Dog River. It was in 1910 when Lebanon's first electric lamp was illuminated.

Electricity was used in homes and factories, but its use was not widespread until the 1960's when it became available to the vast majority of residents. The production and distribution of electricity are controlled by independent companies, the most important of which are the LEA, which serves 550,000 subscribers, the Qadisha Electricity Company, and others.

The LEA was founded on 7 July 1954 by an act of law following Lebanon's recovery of concessions from the Beirut Tramway and Electric Company, a Belgian concern. Its sphere of activity was widened in 1964 when it was empowered to produce and distribute electricity throughout Lebanon.

As of now the LEA has undertaken development in 85 percent of Lebanon. The remaining parts of the country, which are outside its sphere of activity, are being served by private companies which had previously been given franchises or concessions. When they expire, and the state recovers those concessions, these territories will immediately become part of the LEA's service area.

The LEA's power plants produce about 1.7 billion kilowatt hours per year, 40 percent produced by hydroelectric plants, and 60 percent by thermoelectric plants. The authority produces 58 percent of the power by itself and purchases 42 percent.

Consumption and the System

Electricity consumption in Lebanon is distributed as follows: Beirut and its suburbs: 65.7 percent; north and central al-Biqā': 2.5 percent; western al-Biqā': 0.3 percent; Tyre: 1.4 percent; Sidon: 4.0 percent; Mount Lebanon, excluding the Beirut suburbs: 4.1 percent; Kasrawan and al-Batrun: 5.3 percent; northern Lebanon: 16.7 percent.

Consumption is divided among the various sectors in the following proportions:

Lighting and household uses: 46.6 percent; industrial uses: 25.3 percent; public and municipal agencies: 6.3 percent; concessionaires for redistribution: 5.2 percent; loss: 10.7 percent. This last figure rose with the rise in thefts of electric power.

In 1974 the LEA was exporting 5.9 percent.

Electricity production in Lebanon has been in the following amounts:

1974: 1 million kilowatt hours; 1975: 1.826 million kilowatts; 1976: 1.009 million kilowatts; 1977: 1.839 million kilowatts; 1978: 1.979 million kilowatts; 1979: 2.315 million kilowatts. Included in these production figures are the following amounts imported by the LEA: 1977: 30 million kilowatt hours; 1978: 38 million; 1979: 159 million.

Compared with 1974 figures, electric power production in Lebanon declined by 7 percent in 1975, 49 percent in 1976 and 7 percent in 1977; it was equal in 1978; and it increased by 15 percent in 1979, while demand for electricity continued to climb by 11 percent, in spite of the events.

The authority has the following generating plants:

1. Hydroelectric: al-Safa, al-Litani, Ibrahim River, al-Barid River, Harash;
2. Thermoelectric: al-Janubi, al-Zuq, gas, and diesel.

At the present time 245,000 kilowatts in the authority's system are produced by water power. This is an average annual production of 900 million kilowatt hours. But the fact that the major part of this power is produced during the winter, and that during this time thermoelectric units must be employed to ensure reserves for the system, limits the production of these plants to about 750 million kilowatt hours, except in dry years. This quantity is produced by the plants in the following portions: al-Litani: 550 million kilowatt hours; the remaining hydroelectric plants: 200 million kilowatt hours. During the dry season the hydroelectric plants produce 200 million kilowatts.

The thermoelectric plants have a capacity of 359 million kilowatts, with an actual capacity of 270 million kilowatts during the dry season.

The Lebanese electricity system consists of 960 kilometers of 150- and 66-kilovolt high-tension lines, and 45 main transformer stations. There is also a 5,250 kilometer network of medium-tension lines, and a 6,200 kilometer network of low-tension lines, with 4,500 distribution stations.

Difficulties

The LEA suffered losses amounting to 32 million Lebanese pounds as a result of the events of 1975 and 1976. In 1978 it suffered losses of 27 million pounds. These losses were the result of direct damage to the system and the distribution stations which hindered the system's recovering the bulk of its capacity. Speedy repairs of malfunctioning equipment to ensure the resumption of electric current to subscribers left the system and the stations subject to interruptions in service, particularly during the winter.

The situation was particularly aggravated in Beirut and its suburbs because of antiquated equipment and because the needs of some customers could not be met. The condition of the system worsened with the breakdown of security and the inability of officials to punish and thereby deter thieves of electric current. The thieves are not only responsible for the rise in consumption and the authority's low revenues, but they are also to blame for continual interruptions of electric service on the lines they are stealing from, either because they do not know how to steal or because the system cannot sustain [the drain] and is knocked out of service. The acts of theft are not limited to those who do not own company meters and whose names are not on the list of subscribers, but are committed even by subscribers. After smuggling activity increased, and the price of electrical equipment went down, making washing machines, refrigerators, televisions and electric heaters--because of the increased cost of fuel--affordable to everyone, electricity consumption rose. The old meters could not hold up under the pressure, so internal lines were attached to the system without going through the meters.

There are people constructing huge buildings and business centers who are using the system to provide power for excavation and hoisting equipment and other machinery without the knowledge of the LEA. Some are even running factories and operating refrigerated warehouses this way. As a result of all this, electricity valued at about 254 million pounds is stolen. That does not include the damage caused by these thefts for which the LEA continually pays the cost of repairs and is burdened with additional costs.

In addition to these problems the production capacity has fallen as a result of postponed maintenance work and the required expansion activity. Production capacity is scheduled to be raised to meet the rising demand for power into the early 1980's, and to ensure reasonable reserves for emergency situations.

Also on the list of problems are the emigration of numerous engineers and technicians who had been working in production and maintenance, and the low productivity of both white collar and blue collar workers.

All of these factors have produced an imbalance between supply and demand for electric power. While consumption increased at an annual rate of no more than 11 percent before 1975, it rose to 22 percent in 1979. This undersupply, which occurs in the dry season, compelled the LEA to sign a contract with the Syrian Electricity Authority for a 5-year period (1978-1983).

The LEA has drawn up a 1.617 billion pound renovation and expansion program to be completed in 1983. The following are the major projects in the program:

The southern thermoelectric plant in al-Jiyyah. Three 6-megawatt steam turbine generators are to be bought. The contract to supply and install them has been awarded to Braun (Bwfry), a Swiss company, and SGP, an Austrian company. So far the first unit and a large part of the second unit have been installed, and the third is under construction, with some of the civil engineering work still to be done. The project will cost 290 million pounds. The [National] Development Board has taken out a loan from the European Finance Bank for 25 million computational units.

The thermoelectric plant in al-Zug. The purpose of the project is to enhance the existing plant by equipping it with two 125-megawatt steam turbine generators. The contract for the project has been awarded to GIE, an Italian company. It includes the installation of two 145-megawatt steam turbine generators. The amount of the contract is 350 million pounds. The project includes civil engineering work. The two units are expected to begin operation during 1983 and 1984.

The electricity network linked to the Syrian system: The purpose of this project is to make it possible to extend power from Lebanon into Syria and from Syria to Lebanon. The amount of power that can be transmitted in this way is about 100,000 kilowatts. So far 70 percent of the work has been completed and completion is expected in early 1981. The estimated cost of the project is 80 million pounds. It has been financed by two loan agreements between the Development Board and the Arab Fund For Economic and Social Development for 6 million Kuwaiti dinars, and the Abu Dhabi Fund For Arab Economic Development for 27.12 million dirhams, the equivalent of 2 million Kuwaiti dinars. However, the cost of this project has exceeded the expected limit because of fluctuations in the prices of equipment and materials.

There is a second 7-year plan (1984 to 1990) to meet the country's needs for production, transmission and distribution of electric power. The estimated cost, at today's prices, is 2.2 billion pounds.

These projects will be sufficient if distribution and subscription are brought under control, and if thefts cease, so that an equilibrium between supply and demand is brought about. But if the situation remains as it is, and the use of electric machinery and equipment increases, there will be many problems not the least of which is recurring interruptions of service to homes, factories and offices so that production activity will be impeded, and the LEA will be unable to fulfill its obligations toward its subscribers.

9123

CSO: 4802

ROAD CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE PLANS EXAMINED

Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 31 Dec 80 p 6

[Article by Michel Marqus: "221 Million Pounds Allocated For Road Work In 1980; Rayyis: 'Working At Full Capacity We Will Need 2 Years To Put All of Lebanon's Roads In Satisfactory Condition'"]

[Text] Roads are very conspicuous to the citizens--both pedestrians and car owners--in their day to day activities. In most areas the roads are in poor condition. Nevertheless, the director general of roads and buildings, Mr Antoine al-Rayyis, thinks that the department's accomplishments during 1980 were satisfactory. He said that over a 2-year period the agency must follow up what it has begun until it has made Lebanon's roads fit for travel.

But it lacks money. If the necessary funding should not be available implementation of road-building and maintenance programs would be set back.

The department has taken other technical matters, such as the possibility of asphaltting potholes in winter and strengthening roads with steep declivities, into consideration. Several of the department's engineers have studied modern roads subject to similar conditions in European countries to learn how to apply the solutions used there in Lebanon.

What did the department accomplish in 1980?

Roads

A total of 221 million Lebanese pounds were spent on roads as follows:

Contract awards for new work: 49 million pounds.

Deposits toward work: 6 million pounds.

Bills and equipment purchases: 52 million pounds.

Compensation for appropriations: 16 million pounds.

Contract awards for equipment and bridges: 20 million pounds.

Cost overrides for work that is underway: 20 million pounds.

Studies by private consulting companies: 2.5 million pounds.

Asphalting work carried out by the private sector: 48 million pounds.

Monitoring by private consulting companies: 2.5 million pounds.

By contrast, the following amounts were spent in previous years for the same work: 1977: 43 million pounds; 1978: 68 million pounds; 1979: 150 million pounds. This means that 71 million pounds more were spent in 1980 than in 1979, an increase of 43 percent.

The most important road projects carried out in 1980 are the following:

Qanubin-Hadath al-Jubbah;

Bikfayya-al-Dalab;

The Sea Road-al-Kharayib al-Zarariyah;

al-Qunlah Bridge-Military Baths in Sidon;

al-Zayr Bridge on the al-Damur-Dayr al-Qamar Road;

al-Hazimiyah al-Pasha Bridge-al-Maklas Circle;

The Sidon Eastern Boulevard;

Kafariya-al-Litani Bridge-Jubb al-Janin;

Shaka-Kafr Hariz-al-'Asa Gardens-al-Rakruk;

Ba'abda-al-Hazimiyah (reconstruction of curves);

the eastern highway to Beirut;

'Aynata-al-Arz;

the al-Masna' customs plaza;

Ksarah-Zahlah;

Halba-al-'Abdah-al-Qubiyat;

'Ashqut-Faytrun-Kafr Dhubyan;

Bi'r al-Hayt-'Almat'

the Kafr Him corridor;

3 new bridges on the roads into Beirut.

The following are the most important projects that have been completed:

The first part of the Furr al-Shu'rah Highway-Sinn al-Fil Boulevard;

the intersection of al-'Abadiyah 'Arayya with the Syria Road;

completion of the expansion of the Beirut-Damascus Road;

the Kafr Him-B'aqarin Road;

Sayr Biqa' Safrin

Bi'r al-Salasil-fiumin;

the Zgharta Crossing;

al-Ma'mariyah-Tanburit;

al-Bahsas-Kusba-Hadath al-Jubbah;

al-'Abdah-Halba (second part);

Jazzin-Maghdushah;

Ansariyah-al-Babiliyah;

Nahr Ibrahim-Bi'r al-Hayt;

Ghabalah-Yahshush and others (...);

construction of 3 electronic centers for making asphalt in al-Biqa', the south, and Mount Lebanon.

The following are the most important projects costing more than 1 million Lebanese pounds which are expected to be implemented during 1981:

reconstruction of the al-Mansuriyah curves on the Barmanah Road;

the al-Batrun-Jarran-Mayfuq road;

'Artaz-al-Futayhat-Zan-Bash'alah;

Jabala-Kafr Halda-al-Laqluq;

al-Minyah-Bakh'un-Sayr;

al-'Abdah-Halba;

al-'Abdah-Barqayil-Funaydiq;

'Anaya-al-Laqluq;

al-Hadath-Burj al-Barajinah-Airport;

al-Shiyah-Burj al-Barajinah;

Khuldah-Bashamun-'Aytat;

'Alayh-Rishmayya;

Bhamdun-al-Shabaniyah-Qurnayil;

al-Ula-Shahim-Ghurayfah;

Abu al-Aswad-al-Nabatiyah;

Qana-Jun;

Bazuliyah-Tayr Falsah (Tyre District);

the Tyre-al-Thuknah Highway;

Hadathah-al-Tayri;

Khurbat Silm-Bi'r al-Salasil;

Bir Alyas-al-Marj-al-Qar'un;

Yanta-Dayr al-'Ashayir;

Rashiya-Kafr Quq;

Ba'labakk-Dayr al-Ahmar.

The department performed twice as much road maintenance as it did before the events.

The director general of roads describes the maintenance workshop as "important; and the citizens have noticed that." He added: "If we can continue to work at the same level over the next 2 years the condition of the roads throughout Lebanon will become quite satisfactory. This depends on many factors, the most important of which is the ability to provide the necessary funds, which is outside our control."

Buildings

The value of contracts awarded for buildings in 1980 amounted to 47 million pounds, broken down as follows (in millions [of pounds]):

new installations: 42;

maintenance: 3;

studies: 2.

In comparison, 32 million pounds were spent in 1979.

The most important project currently underway are the following:

the Foreign Ministry building in B'abda;

the Parliament building;

the prime ministry buildings in al-Sana'i' and Siyar al-Dark.

The following projects are expected to be prepared and opened for bidding in 1981:

improvement of the al-Karantina hospital;

completion of the new B'abaa hospital;

completion of the Dahr al-Bashiq hospital;

improvement of the Qabr al-Hamra hospital;

completion of studies for the Beirut Central Hospital at Bi'r Hasan;

awarding of a contract for the Tripoli hospital;

completion of studies for the Sidon hospital;

addition of a new floor to the Ba'labakk hospital;

addition of a new floor to the Zahlah hospital;

construction of a health center in al-Minyah;

construction of the higher vocational school in Bi'r Hasan;

completion of the vocational school in Dayr al-Qamar;

completion of the studies for the Lebanese University in al-Fannar;

construction of a vocational school in al-Shuwayfat;

an office building for the internal security forces in Furn al-Shubbak, al-Bustah, al-Sa'diyat, al-Jumayzah, al-Ashrafiyah, al-Awza'i, al-Warwar (al-Hadath) and al-Qubbah (Tripoli);

completion of military barracks in al-Harmal;

various jobs related to the palace of justice in Tripoli, Sidon, Beirut, B'abda and Jubayl;

the local municipality building for Mount Lebanon in al-Fiyadiyah;

the new jail in Sidon;

the second stage of the closed gymnasium in Tripoli.

In addition, improvements at the Beirut International Airport are being carried out by the department by virtue of the fact that the director general is on the development committee and the department is directly in charge of the executive personnel for this work.

From 1977 to 1980 the total value of contracts that have been signed for airport improvement has amounted to about 521 million pounds.

The most important work carried out in 1980 was strengthening the aircraft waiting areas (105 million pounds); and improving the passenger areas (350 million pounds). The work will take 4 years, at the end of which time the airport's passenger-handling capacity will rise from 1 million to 6 million passengers per year.

A building for supplying food to the aircraft: 10 million pounds.

The following work is expected to be carried out in the coming year:

building the new eastern runway;

completion of studies for the western runway at the sea;

relocation of installations with radio antennas and all other impediments in order to implement the project's master plan.

9123

CSO: 4802

LEBANON

BRIEFS

DESERTER DISMISSES ASSOCIATES--Informed quarters have stated that deserter Lt Ahmad al-Khatib, for specific reasons, has removed a number of his associates [in the Arab army of Lebanon] who belong to a certain faction and that this change has been carried out in accordance with a Libyan request. The Syrian quarters were not happy with this move because elements accused of affiliation with the Muslim Brotherhood have replaced some of those elements that have been removed. The informed sources said that Al-Khatib has removed (Subhi Hazimah, 'Ali al-Musawi, 'Ali al-Haj Hasan, Nabil al-Khalil and 'Ali al-Misri); each individual held military rank in Al-Khatib's group. Among the persons who replaced them include ('Ali Talib and Muhsin Khushaysh). [Text] [NC270730 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Feb 81]

CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

REFORMS BY NEW REGIME--Domestically, Mauritania is still so poorly organized that the fate of the country is at present being determined more by the war between Morocco and the POLISARIO. It cannot be claimed that the new regime is not trying. It has just proclaimed a multiparty democracy. It is hoped this will have some meaning. At least more meaning than the famous proclamation of emancipation. Another positive factor is the recognition of the national languages and their use as working and educational tools. It would appear then that there is a certain logic to sociopolitical developments. [Text] [Dakar AFRICA in French Feb 81 p 42]

FOOD DEFICIT--Rainfall declined by 50 percent throughout most of the country last year. The problems were compounded by the destruction of many crops by birds. The overall damage done by the latter has been estimated at 15 percent of the production. To make matters worse, Captain Moulaye Hacheme, the commissioner for food aid, has noted that the already excessive migration from rural areas to cities has continued unabated and in fact been encouraged by the continuing drought. This in turn aggravates the food deficit. Livestock has fared a little better but the lack of sufficient sources and the insufficient distribution of water supply sources has caused a substantial movement of animals and has weakened the resistance to disease. It is estimated that this season Mauritania will be 40,000 tonnes while requirements will be about 195,000 tonnes. When other official imports are added, the overall deficit will be 62,000 tonnes as against the 70,000 tonnes last year. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 16 Feb 81 p 349]

AUSTERE BUDGET--The new Mauritanian cabinet approved the 1981 budget of 10,300m. Ouguiyas, based on continued austerity. The deficit is estimated at 2,210m., in 1978 it was 5,493m. Measures to reduce taxes on lower incomes and increase the salaries of civil servants who earn less than 15,000 Ouguiyas have been approved. But the emphasis this year is put on rural development, fishing and marine economy. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 9 Feb 81 p 295]

OUTLINE OF NEW DRAFT LAW FOR THE PEOPLE'S OVERSIGHT APPARATUS

Aden SAWT AL-'UMMAL in Arabic 25 Dec 80 p 4

[Text] Article 1. This law shall be called the Law of the People's Oversight Apparatus (POA)

Article 2. The POA shall be subject to the Council of Ministers and will submit to its supervision and direction.

Article 3. The POA goal is to participate in the protection of the progressive regime of the Republic and the national economy from all sorts of sabotage as well as to protect the people's property.

Article 4. The POA shall perform its duties relying on the dictates of the Yemeni Socialist Party, the constitution, the laws and other legislations.

Article 5. The principle of Democratic Centralism will direct the activities of the POA.

Article 6. The openness of the POA is an important condition for the performance of its work and its activity. The People's Oversight Committees (POCs) have to acquaint the workers of the results of their activity and measures taken according to their charter. Also the citizens will be informed through widespread meetings and by means of the various media.

Article 7. The POCs will ensure the participation of the workers and the popular mass organizations in the supervision and discussion of the POC's activities.

Article 8. The POA will educate its members in a spirit of respect for law and order in the work place and the importance of the execution of the POA's duties.

CHAPTER TWO: The Important Role of the POA

Article 9. The main duties of the POA within its mandatory powers are:

1. The effective supervision of the state offices and its institutions, the state's farms and cooperatives, and the mixed sector companies in order to ensure

that the implementation of the state's plans are efficiently administered, and that expenditures are held to a minimum and production is maximized.

2. To send directives to the proper authorities through their responsible officials concerning the proper use of existing resources and creating better means to assist in the production of goods and services.

3. Assist in discovering illegal acts and notify the proper authorities to prosecute the violators according to the law.

4. To convey reports and information regarding acts of vandalism, against public property and the national economy, the crimes of civil servants, crimes of abuse of government position, and other such acts that injure the state's interests, to the public prosecutor and the authorities in charge of Investigation and Inquiry.

5. To receive citizens' complaints and suggestions, and convey them to the appropriate agencies charged with their review.

6. To impress on the workers, by means of public exhortations and lectures, discipline in the work-place and how to avoid errors (in production), and to strictly abide by the laws and other regulations.

CHAPTER THREE: The Powers and Rights of the POA

Article 10. The following are enumerated to enable the POA to execute its duties and to regulate the limits of the mandatory powers vested in it.

--1. The inspection of state agencies and offices, state farms and cooperatives, and companies in the mixed sector. The presentation of reports on the results of this inspection along with its conclusions and proposals and relevant recommendations to the appropriate party leadership and administrative officials. In the event that crimes injurious to the interests of the state are discovered it will inform the Prosecutor General and the authorities in charge of Investigation and Inquiry of the reports and information concerning these crimes.

--2. The power to oppose illegal orders or acts, decisions and regulations allowing for the illegal use of public properties, and the wasteful and neglectful use of financial resources. It will take the necessary measures to stop and eliminate such acts.

--3. It will present to the state agencies and offices, state farms and cooperatives, and companies in the mixed sector its proposals on how to avoid errors (of production), how to maintain work discipline, how to increase production and supervise such increases.

Article 11. Upon discovering illegal acts that require administrative inquiry the POA is permitted to present its proposals to the appropriate agencies charged with the execution of administrative punishments according to the Labor Law and the Administrative Law.

Article 12. All state agencies and offices, state farms and cooperatives, and all companies in the mixed sector must present whatever documents and records that are subpoenaed by the POA in the discharge of its duties.

Article 13. It is not permissible to hold members of the POA accountable administratively nor to transfer them to other public posts as a result of the execution of their duty or because of that duty except with the approval of the POC at the highest level.

Article 14. The part-time workers of the POA are permitted to take additional vacation time not to exceed 2 weeks per year, and they may give proficient employees or departments either material or spiritual incentives.

CHAPTER FOUR: Administrative Structure of the POA

Article 15. The POA is to be comprised of:

- 1. A People's Oversight Committee which is to comprise 9 to 11 members.
- 2. A People's Oversight Committee in the Governorate which is to comprise 7 to 9 members.
- 3. A Base POC comprising a minimum of 3 members provided that its membership includes one member from the Executive Committee of the Base Organization of the Yemeni Socialist Party and one member from the Labor Committee.

Article 16. The POCs will be elected in the manner stated below taking Article 17 of this law into consideration:

- 1. The Supreme POC is to be elected by the People's Supreme Council in its first meeting in accordance with a motion made by the Council of Ministers to serve for a period equal to the period of the People's Supreme Council.
- 2. The POC for the Governorate will be elected by the local People's Council in the Governorate in its first meeting according to a motion of the Executive Bureau of the Council and the Supreme POC for a term equal to the term of the council.
- 3. The POC of the Directorate will be elected by the People's local Directorate Council in its first meeting according to a motion made by the Executive Bureau and the Governorate POC for a term equal to the term of the Council, and until the local Directorate People's Council is formed the Directorate POC will be selected by the local Governorate People's Council in accordance to a motion made by the Executive Bureau and the Directorate POC.
- 4. The POC of the District will be elected by the meeting of workers according to a motion of the Directorate POC and the Executive Bureau of the local Governorate People's Council until the time when the local District People's Councils are formed in cooperation with the Governorate POC to serve for a term of one year.

Article 17. The first POC will be elected after this law is put into effect by the People's Council concerned for the remainder of its mandate.

CHAPTER FIVE: The Duties of the Structural Units of the POA.

Article 18. The Supreme POC:

Shall be subject to the directives of the Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers and it will perform the following duties:

- 1. Direct the activity of the POA.
- 2. Receive the reports and studies submitted by lower committees and issue directives necessary for the development of the activity of these committees.
- 3. Draft a yearly plan for itself and execute it.
- 4. Present motions and proposals specially concerned with the development of work methods of the POCs in order to help them carry out their entrusted duties.
- 5. Prepare the budget of the POA.
- 6. Issue directives and instructions concerning the direction and coordination of the POC's functions.
- 7. Issue derivative inter-agency decrees for the POCs on lower levels.
- 8. Direct supervision and control over the POCs in the important Executive Institutions.

Article 19.

1. The chairman of the Supreme Committee of the POA will perform the following functions:

- A. He will chair the meetings of the Supreme Committee of the POA and prepare the agenda of its meetings.
- B. He will direct the activity of POCs on lower levels.
- C. He will bring up periodic reports to the Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers.
- D. He will present reports related to the progress of the Supreme POC's activities.
- E. He will supervise the budget of the POA and decide on any expenditure from it.

--F. He will issue directives and instructions to the chairmen of the POCs on the lower levels.

2. The deputy chairman of the Supreme POC will perform in the absence of the chairman all of his functions and mandated powers.

Article 20. The POCs on the Governorate and Directorate levels.

The POCs on the Governorate and Directorate levels are charged with the following functions and duties:

--1. To direct the activities of the POCs on lower levels.

--2. To direct and study the reports brought up from lower committees and to issue directives for the development of the committees' activities.

--3. To draft a yearly plan for itself and execute it.

--4. To present motions and proposals specially concerned with the enhancement of the POCs' work methods in order to help them carry out their entrusted duties.

--5. To follow up on the implementation of the plans of the POCs.

Article 21. The Chairman of the Governorate POC will prepare periodic reports for the Chairman of the Executive Bureau and the Secretariat of the Party Organization in the Governorate and the Supreme POC. Also the Chairman of the Directorate POC will prepare periodic reports for the Directorate Commissioner and the Party Committee in the Directorate and the Governorate POC.

CHAPTER SIX: Relations of the POA to the Judiciary and to the Republic's Public Prosecutor's Office and the governmental arbitration boards and to the Central Auditing and Accounting Bureau.

Article 22. The activity of the POCs will not include the business of the courts that is related to the administration of the law, nor will it embrace the activity of the Prosecutor General that is related to the execution of the laws nor its control over criminal law enforcement, nor its supervision over the authorities in charge of Investigation and Inquiry; nor will it include the activity of the governmental arbitration boards when reviewing the litigations within its special mandate.

--2. The POCs must coordinate with the Central Auditing and Accounting Bureau the manner fiscal inspection of state agencies and offices, state farms and cooperatives, and companies of the mixed sector.

CHAPTER SEVEN: Concluding Rulings.

Article 23. The Council of Ministers will determine by a resolution issued from it the number of full-time workers with the POA.

Article 24. The rulings of the Fundamental Labor Law will be applicable on the full-time members of the POA.

Article 25. It is desirable that the full-time employees of the POCs will have achieved a good academic standing or an orderly party indoctrination, and are known for impeccable moral behavior.

Article 26. The worker or civil servant who is accused of an act contrary to the labor laws or ordinances has the right to present his defense in writing to the appropriate POC. Also he has the right to appeal its decisions ultimately to the Supreme POC.

Article 27. The POA will establish its activities amongst the institutions of the military according to this law and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers will issue a special bill for the regulation of the activities of the POA in the military.

Article 28. The Supreme Committee has the right whenever necessary to establish POCs for certain restricted duties and functions on the condition that they perform the same duties and have the same jurisdictions that are performed by the permanent POCs.

Article 29. The Prime Minister will issue the necessary resolutions and bills for the implementation of the rulings of this law.

9587

CSO: 4802

POSSIBILITY OF OIL GLUT EXAMINED

London 8 DAYS in English 7 Feb 81 pp 45-46

[Text]

EVEN IF WAR between oil giants Iran and Iraq drags on for another five months, a severe glut on the world crude market by early 1982 is unavoidable, according to petroleum industry experts.

Analysts in Middle East oil-producing countries claim that it could be the worst Opec oversupply problem of the last ten years. Its effects will be far-reaching: Qatar, Kuwait and the North African crude vendors, whose prices are the highest in Opec, will be forced to strip off their premiums and possibly even shave prices.

A Kuwaiti oil executive monitoring the Gulf war's impact on prices said that if Iran and Iraq are able to boost their combined crude sales to 1.3m barrels a day (b/d) — which is feasible — the snowballing impact, taking account of the estimated 700,000 b/d Opec surplus, would dump an extra 2m b/d on the market by this autumn. And that is only a thimbleful compared to the glut expected to occur early next year.

The intentions of Iran and Iraq are the key to a medium term market analysis as recession deepens in the big oil-buying nations of the industrialised West. Oil sources close to the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) calculate that Iran, which now sells between 700,000 and 900,000 b/d, can and must raise exports to at least 2.5m b/d to replace the billions of dollars the five-month long war has drained from Tehran's treasury. As for Iraq, its oil sales are now a negligible 200,000 b/d, compared with 3.5m b/d before the war.

Although Iraq has conquered part of Iran's oil-producing region of Khuzestan, the damage that Ayatollah Khomeini's army has inflicted on Iraq's petroleum installations has been far greater. Businessmen returning from the war zone

around the Shatt al Arab waterway report that Iraq's two main oil terminals in the Gulf, at Khor el Amay and Al Bakr, have been flattened by the Iranian navy and artillery. One American oil company executive said: 'The damage is terrible. It will take the Iraqis anything from six months to a year to repair those terminals.'

Iranian pilots also blasted pipelines leading from Iraq's main oilfield at Kirkuk to the Mediterranean. Before the war Iraq pumped 2.35m b/d through three pipeline outlets in Syria, Lebanon and Turkey. However, western businessmen said that damaged sections of pipeline can be swiftly replaced, and that if Iraq wants it can have the three pipelines in full use in three months.

The question is: does Iraq want to restore these outlets? According to oilmen just back from Baghdad, the answer is not right now. Said one: 'The Iraqis are worried that the minute repairs are made, Iran's fighters will blow the pipeline to pieces again.' Neither Iran nor Iraq are likely to risk pushing their oil production much above the 1m b/d level until a peace settlement is reached. But Middle East oil producers are dreading the ceasefire almost as much as they feared a war in the first place.

The end of the conflict will mean that within three to six months, the cash-hungry former combatants will be dumping as much as 5m b/d onto a market already awash with surplus crude. Opec pacesetter Saudi Arabia has already warned that it will not drop its production to tighten demand, as it did during the last big oil glut in 1977-78.

Not that Saudi Arabia needs the revenue. Theoretically, the Saudis need to pump only 6m b/d — 4m b/d lower than the current level — to run the sparsely populated

kingdom. However, the Gulf war has persuaded Saudi Arabia into speeding up purchases of western equipment from France, West Germany and the U.S. A European Economist observed that the Saudis "like the extra revenue to increase their financial leverage internationally."

Petroleum market analysts say Saudi Arabia may be determined to use the crude glut to regain its dominant influence in Opec. The Saudis, they predict, will maintain high production levels to stabilise prices and force fellow Opec members to accept Saudi long-term strategy for oil.

Saudi Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani has tried the same tactic before, but up until now the hungry market has always snapped up crude at any price. This time, however, supply is expected to stay above demand even during the final 1981 quarter, when industrialised countries usually buy extra stocks for winter fuel. Already Ecuador, admittedly one of the Opec small fry, has quietly sold a substantial amount of crude at \$3 below its official \$40 per barrel price.

On the spot market, a usually reliable gauge of oil demand, prices last week dropped 43 cents to \$38.49 a barrel, well below Opec's \$41 ceiling. So, barring unseen political strife in the Middle East, it looks as though this time Sheikh Yamani will finally get his way.

CSO: 4820

GOVERNMENT DISCOURAGES MOVE TO SUBURBS

London 8 DAYS in English 7 Feb 81 p 40

[Article by Howard Schissel]

[Text]

TUNISIAN officials are putting the final touches to an ambitious urban rehabilitation plan designed to make the Greater Tunis area a better place to live by the end of the century. The aim is to rectify the marked imbalance in the capital's settlement pattern.

For the six year period ending in 1986, the Tunis higher council has allocated Tunisian dinars 500m (\$1 2bn) for urban improvements, including the construction of housing estates, the creation of urban parks, the extension of the sewerage system and the improvement of general facilities such as hospitals and schools.

With just over one million inhabitants, out of Tunisia's total population of 6.5m, Tunis is a bustling and cosmopolitan capital. Rural exodus and population growth means, however, that the city must provide housing and social services for between 60,000 and 70,000 new people each year.

In the suburban zones the rate of population growth has far outstripped the government's capacity to furnish basic services like health care and education. Tunis has only 51 places available in primary schools for each thousand inhabitants, and a mere five hospital beds.

The overriding ambition of government urban planners is to restrict the capital's population boom. To this end, redoubled efforts will be made to attract industry to the hinterland, in particular the poorer central and southern regions.

Even if these measures succeed, the most optimistic forecasts for Tunis predict a population of at least 2m by the year 2000, and some studies even suggest 2.5m. To meet the already severe housing crisis — 29 per cent of housing units lack running water, 22 per cent electricity and 73 per cent basic sanitary facilities — the higher council adopted a crash housing programme late last year.

About 150,000 houses and flats are to be built during the next three years at a cost of TD3-5,000 (\$7,260-\$12,100) per unit. The southern suburbs have been singled out for special attention: a 60,000 population new town is planned for El Mouroudj, with Henchir el Yahoudia set to accommodate another 25,000 people. Previously, popular housing had been concentrated in the western and northern suburbs, while the industrial core was located in the southern areas, thereby creating severe transport headaches.

In addition, the government has decided to rebuild the illegal settlements, the so-called Bidonvilles, at Manouba d'Etadhem and Douar Hichem as well as at El Ouerda. Similar improvements in the southern suburbs are to be financed by USAID, the Netherlands, and a World Bank agency.

An integral part of the Greater Tunis urban renewal programme is the \$180m scheme to transform part of the shallow and brackish 12km by 4km lake into habitable

land. The lake has become an eyesore, and its smell during the hot and humid summer months has become unbearable. The Saudi Fund for Arab Economic Development has lent \$30m and the World Bank \$28m for the first phase of the clean up operation, which includes building a sewage treatment plant.

In the future, 300 hectares of land will be reclaimed on the lake's northern shore and turned into a new urban entertainment and service complex. On the agenda are housing estates, international hotels, a shopping centre and an Olympic sports complex.

The relative lack of public transport bedevils most Tunis inhabitants who spend between two and three hours a day commuting. Even those with their own cars have to contend with the increasingly frequent traffic jams.

The lynchpin in government plans to ease transport congestion is the Greater Tunis light railway or metro system. The proposed rail network will link outlying districts such

as Ariana to the north, Le Bardo and Ettahrir to the west and Ben Arous and El Mourouj to the south to the city centre.

The TD60m (\$145m) contract for the 32km first phase of the Tunis metro was signed last March between the Societe Nationale des Transports (SNT) and the West German consortium of Siemens-Mann-Duag. A last minute attempt to snatch the contract away in favour of a Franco-West German consortium failed in spite of considerable pressure from Paris.

Two Tunisian firms, Ali M'Henni and Afrique Travaux, should start work on track foundations later this year, with the completion of the first phase scheduled for the end of 1985. On the agenda for 1990 is the second stage expansion programme, which will enable almost the entire population of Greater Tunis to benefit from efficient and inexpensive public transport.

OBSTACLES TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSED

Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 5 Jan 81 p 11

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister of YAR, Dr Hassan a Makki, by Abidalli Yusuf in San'a': "Deputy Prime Minister of North Yemen Talks to AL-SAFIR about Developmental Difficulties," date not given]

[Text] The circumstances and disappointments of modernization in Yemen are numerous and diverse. There were the vestiges of colonialism and then the Imam's rule, and both were accompanied by the absence of the infrastructure necessary for any kind of modernization process. On top of all this there is the drain caused by the emigration of Yemeni abroad, particularly of those workers of a productive age.

The deputy prime minister for Financial Affairs in North Yemen, Dr Hasan Makki, will shed some additional light on modernization and its problems in the Yemen Arab Republic.

Question: There has been a lot of talk about modernization, growth, and the plans for it in Yemen. Can you give us a picture of its most significant aspects?

Dr Makki: Yemen's growth and modernization should be seen in the context of the realities of life, not merely in Yemen, but in the area of the entire Arabian peninsula.

It is well-known that the northern portion of Yemen, currently called YAR, is one of the agricultural regions of the Arab peninsula.

However, Yemen awoke to modernization before the Revolution by carrying out the wishes of the rulers who commanded Yemen's isolation. Then when the political leadership weakened at that time there resulted an increased economic deterioration. Agriculture which used to represent the principal basis of the economy collapsed at that time.

When the Revolution came Yemen began to lay down viable foundations for growth. We opened up contacts with Arab countries and amicable nations in spite of our little experience, scarce institutions, and insufficient human resources.

We entered upon the first stage in laying and constructing an economic infrastructure, like schools, roads, ports, etc. We set out to collect the necessary and critical data and statistics, and we established an office specially for this, i.e., the Central Planning Organization, in addition to banks. We worked with special attention on the cooperative sector, such as the people's collective movement, which could systematize the efforts of the popular masses in the countryside.

At the time Yemen found itself on the threshold of its first 5-year plan, which accomplished a great deal, as the reports about it tell us. The plan achieved a considerable success in the agricultural and industrial sectors.

We accomplished 79 percent of the anticipated plan for improved seeds. Moreover, we succeeded in distributing 135,000 coffee plants, and 8,000 various fruit plants. We were equally successful in the area of animal resources where dairy and meat projects were created.

We pay special attention to the individual Yemeni since he is the foundation in our view.

We concentrate on the countryside, but we do not neglect the cities. There are projects in Khawlan, Sa'dah, and some districts close to San'a'. Various international agencies, i.e., the International Monetary Fund, and some Arab agencies, i.e., the Kuwait Development fund, have helped us implement these projects.

In industry, we have begun some light industry which is operated in the private sector with the encouragement of the governmental sector and the incentive of local capital as well as Arab and international capital.

The state has been dedicated to large-scale projects like cement, the airline company, and natural mineral resources.

As for electricity we have several ambitious projects. We have already begun a project to generate 150 megawatts in power and we are working currently on servicing San'a', Ta'izz, and al-Hudaydah and their environs with a network of electric power stations.

Foreign Capital

Question: These projects are important but constitute a way foreign capital can penetrate and control the country's development.

Dr Makki: We operate according to a comprehensive plan that smoothes the way for governmental, mixed and private sector projects. As I mentioned, the state has set up large-scale projects--sensitive ones--like cement, electricity, road construction, and other basic services.

But at the same time we have projects in the mixed sector that have private capital, like the Yemeni Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and some projects are governmentally financed, the tobacco industry for instance. We

returned it to a mixed sector company which is partially financed by foreign and Arab capital.

The perils of foreign capital are manifest. But we are aware that the difficulties that have occurred in other Arab countries were related to the nature of the existing political system, since there were interdependences between financial companies and political influence at the time these countries fell under the rule of colonialism.

The participation of world capital in the development of developing nations has become one of the requests of these nations. Some of the UN resolutions have called on the developed and industrial countries to contribute to the investments in the developing nations to transfer to them what is known as "skill proficiency and the use of technology."

The presence of foreign capital does not mean influence and intervention in our internal affairs at least insofar as we are concerned. Moreover, we vary our sources of foreign capital, and do not rely on only one source. For this reason we have projects that sources in the capitalist countries participate in on an equal basis with the socialist countries. Western sources are not of one kind. There are American companies and West German companies working side by side in projects that are being executed by the Soviet Union, China, and North Korea.

We participate in some projects--the state has established some in the joint-venture sector--at up to 50 percent (of the investment costs) and 20 to 30 percent comes from the citizens, and what remains is financed from what we collect in tax revenues. We collect taxes and distribute its revenues to the shareholders in the projects which we set up in the same areas.

Question: What are the obstacles to development?

Dr Makki: It is possible to outline the most important ones accordingly:

--1. The technically skilled personnel are available in sufficient numbers appropriate to the stages of modernization we are now at.

--2. The worldwide rise in prices that is a result of inflation are what complicate developmental budgets that are prepared in advance.

--3. Sudden and rapid growth in addition to the huge movement of labor to move to the cities have caused an exorbitant rise in the costs of land.

--4. The failure of any systematic coordination between different agencies.

--5. Financing, most of which is from outside sources that are subject to political considerations, might lead to a delay in the delivery of financing under certain conditions.

--6. Yemeni labor is expensive in comparison to others like the Indian or Pakistani or even the Egyptian, and this means that some companies will use

these foreign workers. This in turn forces Yemeni workers to emigrate in search of higher wages, especially to Saudi Arabia or to the other Gulf oil states.

Question: Now that we have brought up the subject of labor and its migration, what are the effects of this on Yemen and its modernization? Especially since the state has no power to control it on the one hand and cannot prevent its effects on the other?

Dr Makki: Labor migration has an undeniably negative aspect--and it is that some regions lose this ample manpower, particularly in the agricultural sector.

Yemeni labor does not get the wages it deserves because it is neither trained nor skilled as much as the case is in some other Muslim and Arab countries. We fear that the utilization of Yemeni labor in these countries is temporary and will come to an end along with the development of the needs of these (labor) importing countries, and these countries will contract employment agencies in the industrial sector in order to fill their needs. That will make them turn to skilled technical labor. Therefore the time might come when they no longer need Yemeni labor in their plants.

On the other hand, we must increase the laborer's amenities at home in his own country so that he does not emigrate for good. This is what motivates us in our concern for the countryside--to provide it with a telephone network and numerous communications links to the principal cities where Yemeni emigres live in large numbers, mostly in Britain and the US.

We have not up till now had any power to control emigration, and that is a rift we must plug up.

But we will not be able to do so before we can increase the requisite number of work opportunities that can attract the migrant labor to return home, and use the other labor that is suffering from disguised unemployment, especially in the countryside.

In spite of all that one should not ignore the positive aspects of the emigration. The most important of these is the provision of liquid funds that are difficult for us to obtain with Yemen's own resources,

For that reason we should not--at least for the time being--stop the emigration because it is one of the more important sources of our capital. However we should try to contain it.

Inflation now is an evil we cannot avoid even if we could stop the emigration.

Question: What about the (continued) partition (of the Yemen) as one of the obstacles to development?

Dr Makki: It is a calamity that afflicts Yemen, and the ultimate root of the ruin of any form of development. It is difficult to talk about effective progress for us in the shadow of the (continuing) partition.

Unity is one of the most powerful agents of development.

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